

# The Nation.

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## The Week.

THERE is more interest in the political situation in Tennessee than elsewhere. It is said that there is no hope that the new Legislature can be got to ratify the Fifteenth Amendment, and that Governor Senter will assemble the present one in extra session, for the purpose of getting that business safely done. This would be one of those little bits of hand-to-mouth sharp practice which are so common in our politics, and which have done much to debase them and make them all but untouchable. One party gerrymanders a State this fall, then why should not another next year do the same thing? and then, what better example is there for a set of legislators who find that they can prevent unpalatable legislation by coolly resigning in a body, thus practically committing treason by evading the force of law in a manner more fatal to its authority than open and armed resistance to it? And then, why should not the "previous question" be used to gag speakers; or why should not we see Senators and Representatives of the United States practising some little unworthy trick to spring a trap on their opponents? Whether, however, Mr. Senter will call the Legislature together or not is undecided. It would effectually kill any chances he may have for being sent to the United States Senate; but perhaps the story that he cherishes aspirations is not true. Emerson Etheridge is still a candidate, and so is Andrew Johnson; but some correspondents, who appear to be well-informed, deny that Johnson has any chance.

In Virginia, the *Sun* reporter has interviewed General Canby, without getting much more from him than that he makes a point of keeping himself uninformed as to politics, as he wishes to have nothing to do with them, and that he has the Reconstruction acts before him, and shall follow the course laid down in them—the only course open to him. Now, will some of the journals that have been counselling him not to do so, tell us why not? Are they to evolve laws, and he rub out his oath and execute them? And how often in a year is he to do it?

We understand the Congressional Committee on Retrenchment, which lately visited the New York Custom-house, found things in such a bad way in the matter of corruption that they made up their minds to report a Civil Service bill of some kind next session, not Jenckes's, they say, but something of the same kind. The President is understood to be of the same way of thinking, and will recommend a reform of some kind, without mentioning any particular measure. One thing made a deep impression on the committee—and that was, that men from all parts of the country were exceedingly anxious to get places in the Custom-house here, the salaries of which would not yield them a decent subsistence, showing that the pickings must be something

handsome. Our friend "Clericus's" Vermont Congressman would probably say that what they wanted was to qualify, by a little custom-house experience, for the governorships of territories, but our opinion is that this gentleman's kind, simple heart has here led him into error. What they seek is simply "pickins," or "perksits," or "swag," or "stamps," by all of which names booty or plunder is known to them.

If the Democratic party lives much longer, it will not be for want of good advice; there is medicine enough offered it to kill it out of hand. Last week it was Mr. John Quincy Adams; this week it is the henchmen of Supervisor Tweed in the Seventh Ward of this city, and General Rosecrans, who writes from California. Our New York Democrats think Mr. Belmont does not give money enough to the treasury, and is only an ornamental figure-head, and that the man who planned Hoffman's and Seymour's peculiar victory last fall is the man to make majorities in 1872. But the affair looks more like a little toadying to Mr. Tweed than anything else, he being one of the two or three men who hold this city in the hollow of their hands. The party gets more money from Mr. Belmont, as chairman, than it will get if he should be put out, we may rest assured; and there is nothing in the way of power and dignity which the Democratic party in the State can bestow upon Mr. Tweed that he cannot now bestow upon himself whenever he pleases. He has just decided to go up to Albany as Senator, we see. And supposing Mr. Hoffman were to become President, would the distinguished gentleman for whom the majority was made refuse the distinguished gentleman who made it anything he wanted in payment for his services, whether he was chairman of the National Committee or not?

General Rosecrans rises above the "practical politics" of our friends in the Seventh Ward, and admonishes the party of many things, in a letter which is as long-winded as good, sound Democratic documents must of necessity be. The substance of it is that the people of this country are Democrats by nature, and—we may say so, though the General puts it discreetly—that the Democratic party is not, in its present constitution, democratic at all. He specifies the planks of a platform which has a good enough look, and, on the whole, is creditable to him; but he had to bear in mind the fact that the Ohio Democracy just now are fighting against the Amendment, so he vaguely talks about enlarging the basis of suffrage, but of letting women and inferior races exercise their legitimate influence on legislation by some other means than the ballot. What he says about the caucus system, the public debt—which he would not repudiate in any way—offices, and so on, is all very well; but he will die before he sees the party on that platform, unless, indeed, the South should get the negro out of her head and put forward some leaders. The Democracy has had only imbeciles for chiefs since the Southern ones went into delirium; but madness seems more curable than idiocy, and that still prevails in the councils of our Northern sachems.

The excitement in Massachusetts about the nose-pulling seems to continue with but little abatement. The *Springfield Republican*, discussing Mr. Curtis's plea in extenuation, rebukes him for having "vindicated his honor" in the railroad car, to the disturbance, if not terror, of some fifty well-bred and inoffensive people—from which we conclude that it thinks that, when a nose has to be pulled, it should be done privately, and in some secluded place; but we must say that this is a very unscientific view of the subject. Deliberate nose-pulling, in cold blood, on ground selected for the purpose, is a very much graver offence, in the eyes of both the lawgiver and the moralist, than nose-

pulling on the spur of the moment and in the heat of passion; so that, had Mr. Curtis postponed the commission of his offence in obedience to reflection of any kind; however laudable, he would have aggravated it. That sweet, sensitive, fastidious moralist, the *Commonwealth*, also discusses the question, and is satisfied—as well as we can make out the sense of what it says—that Mr. Curtis's offence was part of a deliberate attempt to establish "caste" in America, and that the man himself is an illustration of "a class delusion;" but it says it won't do. The spirit of the age is against it. Jefferson and his school made the thing impossible. "We may all," says this saintly sheet, "become gentlemen, in that we may all succeed in making the best and kindest use of the faculties that God has given us"—which is true and affecting.

But then, coming down to particulars, should a young man take for his model that great Massachusetts "gentleman" whom the *Commonwealth* held up to admiration last fall, and, when one of his brethren abuses him or insults him, go straight home, connect a neat and rather droll lie about him, and, putting his tongue in his cheek, mount the nearest moral and progressive stump and tell it, with such additions and amplifications as the occasion may suggest? Is it really awful to pull a nose, or to give way to a hot human impulse and strike a blow, and quite allowable to defile your own soul and avenge yourself on your enemies by any amount of cold-blooded slander, vituperation, foul inuendo, and foul epithet? Is this really what "the spirit of the age" prescribes, and what we are all coming to? We hope the preacher will "clear his head of cant," as Dr. Johnson said to another prosier, and enlighten us on these points. But in doing so he must not scream or throw mud, or say the *Nation* defends nose-pulling. It does nothing of the kind. It is simply sickened by the horror of nose-pulling displayed by people for whom a human tongue, degraded by lying, vituperation, cant, and humbug, and small cheating, has nothing repulsive whatever.

We know, from General Butler and Mr. Parton, that about seven of the Senators are abominably corrupt, having sold themselves to the Whiskey Ring during the impeachment trial, and then covered up their tracks with such skill that not a particle of proof against them was ever discovered. On hearing this about several of the leading members of the Republican party, we felt satisfied, as we suppose everybody did, that there must be plenty of corrupt fellows amongst the others also, who escaped, owing simply to the fact that they voted on the "right" side. Things leak out about them occasionally, however. For instance, the *Tribune*, on the 5th of August, ascribed the defeat of General Frémont's Southern Pacific Railroad Bill, last session, to Mr. Howard, the Chairman of the Pacific Railroad Committee, having got it "referred to that committee and held it there," and added, significantly, that his reasons could not have been "creditable to him." To this he, trying to wriggle out, replies that the bill was never referred to his committee at all, whereupon the *Tribune* said that, at all events, Mr. Howard killed it by "threatening to talk the session out if the Senate consented to take it up"—all the wily Howard had said being that it was too late in the session to take it up, or that, if it was taken, "he had a good deal to say about it," and other corrupt fellows having said the same thing; but the *Tribune* nails him by again observing, pointedly, that Mr. Howard is Chairman of the Pacific Railroad Committee, and that this "is a very important position, in which a true man can effect great good, and in which a corrupt man may make a great deal of money." It may seem incredible, but it is nevertheless true, and it shows how brazen-faced the Senators have become, that Mr. Howard, in the teeth of this complete exposure of his corruption, writes to the *Tribune*, on Tuesday, denying indignantly that any act of his, in the Senate or on the committee, had been directly or indirectly influenced by pecuniary considerations.

It seems that the Harvard men, in the late race, gave their boat "the Harvard start," and put her at once ahead of the Oxfords, going at the rate of forty-four or forty-five strokes a minute, and probably a little more. It is a start that looks a little flurried, and would look particularly so, probably, in English eyes, so the go-off has been spoken of as nervous, which it probably was not. Two miles out, Harvard was

leading, but not going, we may be sure, at the rate of any such number of strokes to the minute as the rate with which she set out. Just past Hammersmith Bridge, at the top of the horseshoe which the river makes between Putney and Mortlake, the Oxfords overlapped and passed, and it looks very much as if they had been making a waiting race, and as if they might have passed before if they liked. Our men had a little bad steering to contend against, some sickness in their boat, and an overpowering flood of English sympathy with the Oxfords. But was it any of these, or all of them combined, that lost us the race? Only the crew can tell. It will be time enough for us to talk about the relative merits of the two styles of rowing when we hear the opinions of the American crew on the question whether we shall stick to our style in races here—three miles, with a turn, bow-oar steering—and whether, also, we shall stick to it when next we row them over a four-and-a-quarter mile course, with no turn, and with a hundred-and-odd pounds of dead-weight in the stern of the boat. These are nicer questions than any but expert oarsmen and men of science can determine. The "American style of rowing" could really no more have been on trial in the race and fairly tested than the American horse could be fairly tested by taking a trotter of ours and setting him against a running horse at the Derby.

And now, what to do about it? Go over again till we do beat, will probably be every Harvard man's—not to say every American man's and woman's—first thought, unless, indeed, he and she think first that Oxford ought to send a crew over here. We wish she would; and we see that two enthusiastic citizens have offered, the one five thousand dollars, the other an unlimited amount, to pay the expenses of the Oxford men should they choose to come over here—where certainly a warm welcome would await them, and where—we must confess it—everybody, from infancy to hoary age, is hoping and expecting to see them beaten. But the truth is that we went over there and took on ourselves the conditions imposed by English racing law, and we have nothing to do but go again until we beat, or else "shut up," as the sporting world says. Perhaps we never can turn out so good a crew again, but it is equally probable that Oxford, too, will not next year have a crew so practised as well as so strong as this best of all her crews. At any rate, we are in a manner bound to try. Meantime, Mr. Emerson's great law of compensation comes into play, and there is a dash of sweet in our bitter cup. What could have been done with Boston if we had won? There would have been no living in the same country with her, and probably she would have dragged us into a foreign war before the year was out. Her pride is almost unendurable now; but with three Bostonians and a Concord man as victors over Oxford, she would have been altogether past bearing. We should have the spectacle that the *World* prefigured the other day, when it described Boston as being ninety-five millions of miles from the sun, slightly flattened at the poles, and revolving on its own axis once every 23 hours 56 minutes 4 seconds, thus causing the alternation of day and night.

Miss Catharine Beecher has published a letter addressed to the "Honorable Conductors of the Public Press," rebuking them for the circulation of divers small and silly and impertinent stories about her father, brother, and sister, and requesting them to abstain from it. The "honorable conductors," we observe, have in several instances, while acknowledging their faults, shown an unseemly disposition to "sarse back" at Miss Beecher, and to insinuate that if they have taken liberties with the names and private affairs of her friends, they, the conductors aforesaid, were not exclusively to blame. Miss Beecher now requests us, in case we notice her letter, to impress upon these gentlemen the fact that it is not the publicity or impertinence she complains of, but the falsehoods—falsehoods "injurious to character, and which not only tend to wound private feeling, but to lessen confidence and respect for the public press." We had not intended noticing her letter. We do not publish cackle about people's private lives ourselves, and doubt whether anything we could say on the subject could induce those of our brethren who do to give up the practice. But since Miss Beecher requests it, we are happy to place before them her explanation.



A conference was held last week between Governor Hoffman and some of the prison officials of this State and Professor Dwight and Dr. Wines of the Prison Association, touching the sad state of things at Sing Sing and other prisons of the State. The prison officials all agreed that one great cause of the existing disorganization was the influence of party politics on the selection of prison officers; and that the sudden abolition of the old modes of punishment by the Legislature at its last session, without at the same time providing proper substitutes, had had a very bad effect on discipline, and actually put prison officers in peril of their lives. Governor Hoffman excused himself for signing it, on the ground that public opinion demanded it, and that "the best way to procure the repeal of a bad law," etc. But how did he know public opinion demanded it; and is not the very first object of the veto power the prevention of hasty legislation; and is not all legislation hasty in which a crowd of persons deal with a delicate problem in total ignorance of its nature? There are plenty of experts of the highest order to be consulted on the subject of prison discipline,—Messrs. Dwight and Wines, for instance, in this State; F. B. Sanborn and Haynes, in Massachusetts; and governors at least ought to know better than sign bills regulating the public prisons about which the opinion of no expert has been asked.

The subject of removing the Federal Capital to some place in the West is undergoing vigorous agitation, St. Louis being at present the principal competitor for the honor of succeeding Washington. There is really only one objection to the scheme, or rather only one thing to be said in favor of Washington, and that is, that the expense of removal would be enormous, owing to the abandonment of the Government buildings. The *Chicago Tribune* calculates that new buildings could be erected elsewhere to meet all the wants of the Government for a century to come for \$50,000,000; and by deducting from this the amounts that will have to be expended in providing new buildings at Washington during the next few years, it makes out the total cost of removal to be only \$10,000,000. It is possible that the Government might provide itself with what buildings it needs for \$50,000,000; but surely nobody who reflects on the influences which preside at the planning and execution of great public works can seriously believe that accommodation for the Government *would* be provided for anything like that sum. But then the expense is, after all, a small matter. The main question in deciding on the propriety of moving, and on the place to move to, is whether anything would be gained by it, politically or morally. Geographical considerations are of little consequence in these days of railroads and telegraphs. Every place is near every other; and the United States may now be said to answer one definition of space, in having its centre everywhere. But the capital ought undoubtedly to be a real city, having a life of its own; and we venture to say, at the risk of making Westerners laugh, that the Federal Government would gain more and do more good by moving to New York than to any other place. We believe indeed that this scheme already has its serious advocates, and their arguments, if not overwhelming, are very strong.

The negotiations about Cuba seem to have advanced one stage, in that the Spaniards have been asked to sell the island for bonds, not exactly to be guaranteed by the United States, but to be paid by customs duties, which the United States are to receive in trust and hand over; but this last assertion is denied. The offer has been refused. Spain, it is said, will not negotiate for a sale as long as the insurrection lasts, and there thus only remains the alternative of getting her to make thorough political reforms in Cuba or beating her out of the island. She is still there; neither "Yellow Jack" nor the various important "movements" which Quesada is constantly said to have on foot have yet driven her out. The exertions of the filibusters have, however, been languishing under the influence of the hot weather or the vigilance of Marshal Barlow, or it may be that the fall will witness a renewal of the terrible "battles" of last spring. But the mere continuance of the insurrection is, for Spain, in her own disorganized condition, a real and it may be fatal cancer. Her finances are in a state which makes war, and above all distant war, little short of madness.

There is no foreign news worth mention except that from China, which consists principally of the address of the foreign merchants to Mr. Ross Browne, and his reply, on which we have commented elsewhere. The *Shanghai Newsletter*, the American paper published at Shanghai, makes a good deal of what may be called sober fun of the ideas which seem to be springing up here as to the predominating interest of the United States in Chinese trade and in the Chinese welfare, and quotes Consul Medhurst's statistics in support of its criticisms, showing that of imports into China, excluding opium, valued at 31,670,166 taels, the British send 27,765,634, the Americans 833,000; of exports, valued at 39,153,329, the British take 29,221,884, the Americans 4,673,872. Of the Chinese customs revenue, amounting to 2,501,436 taels, the British contribute 2,084,148, and all other nations put together 417,288; of the total foreign trade of the port of Shanghai the Americans contribute just 5 per cent. After citing these figures the *Newsletter* laughs over Mr. Howard's advice that the President should increase the Legation at Peking, "in view of the fact that there is to be a sharp competition between the United States and England during the next few years," and asks if he supposes that an increase in the size of the Legation would lead American merchants to bid higher for Chinese goods than they do now.

The *Newsletter* thinks the bulk of the trade will inevitably belong to England for a long time to come, because she has trained her own people and their near neighbors to drink enormous quantities of tea, and possesses the best ships and a superabundance of capital, for which she can find no employment at home; and because the English have so cheapened their textile fabrics, and adapted them to Eastern wants, that they have almost monopolized Eastern markets. The Americans, on the other hand, have not nearly as much capital as they can profitably employ at home, and are occupied rather in building up domestic manufactures and keeping them alive, than in pushing the sale of their products abroad. The *Newsletter* mentions, as bearing on the question, "that duplicates of the American letters by the last Pacific mail reached Shanghai by the European route a week before the originals; and that by telegrams *via* London, they knew of the sailing of the *Japan*, with particulars of her cargo, several days before her arrival." The writer, however, thinks American trade with China may yet, by "wiser laws"—meaning, we presume, the adoption of a free-trade policy—and by increase of population, make cotton fabrics at so low a cost as to take a larger part in supplying Chinese wants; but even that will be more in the nature of an increase of the trade than a division of that already existing.

Mr. Ross Browne has in the meantime been recalled, and is on his way home. A report was circulated here a few days ago that he had announced that the Chinese had refused to ratify the Burlingame treaty, which he has since contradicted, but not in time to prevent his receiving a severe castigation at the hands of some of the great dailies. It came out that he was bribed by the British and French to bring Mr. Burlingame to nought; and this, and a reasonable amount of other baseness on his part, were accounted for by his having been appointed by Andrew Johnson, as if nobody but the most depraved could possibly have entered into the service of the United States during that monster's term of office. Poor Reverdy Johnson suffered in the same way. He was unanimously nominated by the Senate, and went to England with a letter of introduction from Mr. Sumner to John Bright, praising him in terms so ardent that Bright was near going to London in hot haste to look at him as a kind of moral curiosity; but in a few short weeks the poor man had sunk to the grade of a mere creature of "the greatest criminal of the age;" and even Mr. Sumner expressed his astonishment that British statesmen should have entered into negotiations with one so lost, and so utterly without authority or consideration. It must be a curious sensation to go abroad with the applause of one's countrymen, lead what one considers a sober, moral, and industrious life during one's absence, and then suddenly to open the papers of one's native land and find one's self described as a disgrace to one's home and kindred, and a person to whom a bare subsistence is all that the groaning and indignant earth can possibly owe.

## THE DEMOCRATIC PROGRAMME.

WE believe we are now in a position to institute an enquiry into the programme of the Democratic party for the coming year or two. We have, besides the platforms of three or four State conventions, the utterances of Mr. Pendleton in Ohio and the utterances of Mr. John Quincy Adams in Massachusetts, and the comments of the Democratic press thereupon; and the inferences which a plain man may draw from them all are, as nearly as possible, these: That opposition to reconstruction—meaning by that the mode in which the Southern States have been restored to their places in the Union—and to its accompaniment, negro suffrage, has been—though it is still mentioned—given up, and will before long not even be spoken of even at “Confedrit Cross-roads;” that there is still a strong hostility to the payment of the public debt in the rank and file of the party, although the leaders are content to mask it under a demand that the bonds should be paid according to “the letter of the contract”—that is, that the majority of them should be paid in greenbacks—Mr. Pendleton, for instance, abusing Mr. Boutwell for buying bonds at a premium when he is entitled to pay them off at par (in paper); that there is a good deal of hostility to prohibitory liquor legislation and to heavy taxation; that there is little, if any, of the old Democratic leaning to free trade, or that, if there is much of it, it is not strong enough or widely diffused enough to find expression; that the party, as a party, has no views on currency or taxation—the only one of its organs which propounds any positive theories on these subjects being the *New York World*, the “good and regular standing” of which is often doubtful; that it is in a position of great embarrassment about the Chinese immigration—being, on the one hand, impelled to favor it by the desire of swamping the negro, and, on the other hand, impelled to oppose it by the fear of offending the Irishman; that, in the dispute between labor and capital, it is anxious to get along without committing itself, and is discouraged by the eagerness displayed by the Republican politicians to cut down the hours of labor to any required extent, and by the consciousness that, though the laborers supply votes, the capitalists supply the money for the canvass, and that it is as dangerous and less agreeable to alienate the latter than the former. The main article in the creed of the party seems to be, however, that Grant is not a good man for the Presidency, and the strength of most of the Democratic papers is devoted to abusing him, and accusing him of corruption, ignorance, and light-mindedness. About administrative reforms the party says nothing beyond denouncing Republican corruption, which warrants the conclusion that its only remedy is to appoint politicians of its own to the places now held by Republican politicians. Of any attempt to reorganize the Civil Service, or to withdraw it from the arena of party politics, it does not speak. On the whole, the only thing the party declarations warrant us in expecting from its accession to power is the substitution of Democratic officials for Republican ones; it does not identify itself with a single legislative change now talked of, or likely to be talked of, and offers us no reason for expecting that, even if it were allowed to fill the public offices, it would display more care in the selection of the public officers than it has ever displayed.

On questions of foreign policy, its attitude appears as meaningless as on questions of domestic policy. The *World* is singularly clear and able in its treatment of all points of international law; but there is no evidence that the bulk of the party pays much heed to its utterances on this class of subjects. The State platforms contain just as much vague declamation about the duty of protecting the rights of American citizens abroad as seems likely to satisfy, or at least pacify, the Fenians—that is, the most gullible portion of the community; but we have never yet seen in any Democratic speech or article a direct mention of rights of American citizens abroad which the present Administration was not seeking to protect by the negotiations it has concluded with the principal European states. There is in the Fenian mind a lurking suspicion that, amongst the rights of American citizens abroad, is the right of waging private war; and this certainly the Administration shows no sign of protecting; but then the Democratic party has shown no sign of recognizing the existence of any such right. Upon the *Alabama* matter, none of its organs have called for anything more than payment of actual damages, and nobody denies that Grant's Ad-

ministration will claim, or has claimed, at least this. No papers have indulged in more ridicule of Mr. Sumner's “rule of damages” than the Democratic papers; and about Cuba we have not as yet seen a certain word from them, except that whatever the President either does or leaves undone is wrong.

In fact, after we have sifted Democratic declarations thoroughly, the only thing substantial left in the way of a policy seems to be hostility to the Government creditors—a disposition either not to pay them at all, or to pay them in paper, in defiance of the understanding when the contract was made, of the uniform practice of the Government, and of all the traditions of the Democratic party, and to reduce the interest by taxing the bonds. All else is mere barren criticism, and much of it positively childish; so that even if the Republican party had no other claim to support, its position as the defender of the public credit against the attacks of repudiators would be sufficient. Here the Democrats offer a positive and unmistakable gain in money to every reckless and dishonest person. They put down on paper the precise sum that may be saved by putting them in power, while all their other promises have no appreciable value. Without this, therefore, it would be hard to say what the party had to offer as a reason for its existence, except a refuge to men of an easy temperament. Its hostility to the prohibitory liquor law in Massachusetts, for instance, does not seem to rest on any principle of government, but expresses simply the desire of “good fellows” to be let alone over their glass and pipe.

Of course, where party lines are sharply drawn, and include the press as well as the voters—newspapers feeling it to be their duty to stand by their own flag through thick and thin—the party in power would be subjected to no criticism whatever if it did not come from the opposition; and even if it had no policy of its own to propose, the Democratic party might, both lately and during the war, have rendered valuable service to the country, both in and out of Congress, simply as a critic of the Administration. A good working, inquisitive, sharp opposition is nearly a necessity in a constitutional state. But the way in which the Democracy has played the part of an opposition has been, as we have often remarked, really lamentable. In Congress, the speeches of the Democratic members were during the war about as effective and pointed as the cackling of so many hens; and since the war the Democratic opposition has consisted mainly in small personalities—the *World* alone making an attempt to strike serious blows; but even in its case, its habit of allowing its fool to keep jangling his bells and making grimaces all the time its sages are talking takes all weight out of their discourses. It seems almost incredible, but it is nevertheless true, that the main cause of the dissatisfaction of the Democratic press with the Republican Administration of late, if we may judge from the amount of space it has devoted to it, is the visits of the President to the watering-places, and his participation in divers festivities of the summer visitors. There is nevertheless no doubt that the Democratic papers are mostly edited by adults, and that there is nothing peculiar or in any way calculated to cause anxiety to their friends in their daily walk and conversation. We ought in fairness to mention, before closing, one sign of progress that we have seen in one of the Democratic organs, viz., commendation of Mr. Pendleton, of Ohio, for the governorship on the ground of the purity of his morals. As this came from a shrewd politician, there is undoubtedly something hopeful about it; but it remains to be seen what effect it will have on the rank and file.

## THE NEW TURN OF AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

WE have received from an American correspondent in China, who has from the first been a hearty advocate of the Burlingame Embassy, and has warmly defended it in these columns, and in whose judgment about Chinese policy we have great confidence, a formal expression of his belief that Mr. Burlingame has been greatly deceived by the Chinese Government, and that the facts of the case fully warrant the deductions drawn by Mr. Ross Browne in his recent reply to the address of the foreign residents touching the policy of the Imperial Government and its relations with the Western world, and which have been received



here by last mail. The correspondence has, no doubt, been perused by all those who take an interest in this subject, and, whatever may be the differences of opinion on the merits of the question, all will admit that the opinions of the merchants are entitled to consideration as well as those of our late minister—for, however we may question his mode of expressing them, they are without doubt his honest convictions, derived from personal experience and observation. The British merchants justify their own communication to the American minister on the ground that the interests of both peoples in China are inseparably connected—that whatever affects the condition of the one, either favorably or unfavorably, alike affects the other.

Both communications convey to Mr. Browne the most cordial approval of his official course, deplore the mistake of the home governments in yielding to Mr. Burlingame's suggestions, and express great regret that he, Mr. Browne, should have been removed for favoring the only policy which in their judgment is the true one. Mr. Browne's reply, which is addressed in common to both, contains an elaborate exposition of his views upon the China question, and he probably intended it to be a public justification of his course. He could not have expected that his own Government would approve of this, but he probably felt that his mission was at an end, and that he was at liberty to express himself with perfect freedom to any one. He is evidently an earnest and progressive American, who desires to see all other nations practise the intellectual freedom and energy which have accomplished so much for his own country. When he assumed the duties of United States Minister to China, he was under the impression that the Chinese Embassy which he left with us really meant progress; that while Mr. Burlingame was working to that end in Europe and America, he, Mr. Browne, ought to be stimulating the Chinese Government to increased activity in the same direction. He soon found that he had come in contact with the most impassive and rigid conservatism on the face of the earth; that, far from seeing any evidence of a desire for progress, he saw a decided opposition to it—a disposition to seize every opportunity that might offer to restrict rather than to increase intercourse with foreigners; and that nothing but the moral pressure of the foreign ministers in Peking induced the Government to fulfil the treaty engagements which it had already assumed. He plainly, perhaps bluntly and unwisely, suggested to the Imperial Government the adoption of certain measures for the development of the internal wealth of the country, and for the early establishment of railroads and telegraphs, but he found them to be very averse, and at length he observed indications that the leading mandarins were entertaining hopes that the result of their embassy would enable them to repress rather than promote progress. We can easily imagine the disgust of our thorough American envoy when such indications became plainly apparent.

But, with few exceptions, people here, including the members of Congress, have very inadequate conceptions of the true character of the Chinese people and their government, and hence they are unable to indicate the true policy which should govern our relations with them. The arrival of the Chinese Embassy upon our shores, under the leadership of Mr. Burlingame, who at once announced that his mission meant progress, created enthusiastic interest among all classes of our people, who believed that ancient China had immediately come out from the walls within which she had so long been secluded, for the purpose of offering the hand of friendship and of taking her proper place in the family of nations, of establishing reciprocal relations of free and friendly intercourse, and, in the words of her chief envoy, "of interchanging ideas as well as merchandise." But these expectations have been by no means realized; indeed, there is some excuse for the belief that the main object of the mission was quite the opposite of the one we had hoped. A treaty was made in Washington, and it was ratified by the Senate, but we confess our inability to see anything in it that is of any value to us beyond what was already secured by the previous one, while there are some clauses which specifically, and still more by construction, give the Chinese certain rights which they might easily exercise to our disadvantage. It has been eulogized by some writers for the magnanimity which it evinces on the part of our own Government towards the Chinese and because it is altogether in their favor. We consider this

a very questionable merit. We were surprised to hear that the Chinese should have hesitated to ratify it, and we are not at all surprised to find the story flatly contradicted.

We should always remember that "the favored nation" clause exists in all the treaties which China has made with the Western nations, and which provides that every treaty power shall enjoy all the rights and privileges which have been, or which hereafter may be, granted to any one of them; but there is no provision that the restrictions which any single power may agree to as applicable to herself are thereby binding in any way upon the others. If the Burlingame treaty ties our own hands in any way—as it surely does—it has no effect upon those who have not entered into like engagements. It is quite certain that none of the European governments will do so, and we shall be left to enjoy exclusion by the merit of our magnanimity towards China in binding ourselves not to attempt to intervene in her domestic affairs in any way—that is, not to help her on in the path of progress. This treaty, if ratified by the Chinese, would very properly be used by them as a complete bar to any suggestion which an American minister might offer respecting internal improvements, and would justify the return of a letter like that of Mr. Browne to Prince Kung unanswered. All the moral influence of progressive America would be ruled out.

It is very well to advocate and practise the duty of applying equal justice to all our dealings with others, and to recognize the independence and sovereignty of all other governments; but while we should always act justly towards other nations, there are instances where yielding to their *full* sovereignty may be modified. Among the nations of Christendom, the people have so many ideas and habits in common, and their relations with each other are so governed by the rules of civilized international law, that they form a kind of commonwealth, within which the people of any country can freely travel or reside in each, for business or pleasure, and enjoy the common privileges and the equal protection of the laws. Such is not the case between Christendom and the Mohammedan and pagan nations; the maxims and usages of the latter are such that civilized governments have not deemed it safe or honorable to allow the lives and properties of their own people to be left to the uncontrolled jurisdiction of these non-Christians, but have made special treaties in their favor. The higher civilization must often dictate to the lower, and there can be no greater confession of inferiority than the fact that the semi-barbarian nations have accepted this demand for extraterritoriality. But under the Burlingame mission China asks to be acknowledged by the governments of Christendom as entitled to that full sovereignty and independence which they claim and exercise for themselves, and that she should be left free to regulate her internal and external affairs in accordance with her own views. This request seems very fair upon its face, and there are many among us who would freely assent to it; but if we should formally agree to this, and act in *full* accordance with its spirit, we should tear up our present treaties, on the ground that they were extorted from her by violence, and then leave her to grant such terms of intercourse as only her own pleasure would dictate. In such an event, the Chinese would surely re-establish the old régime that existed in Canton in the days of Governor Loo and Lord Napier, and would subject us to every ignominious restraint they might fancy, under pain of expulsion.

The trading people of China, like those of all other nations, undoubtedly desire freedom of trade with all; but the literati or governing class are devotedly attached to the traditions and usages of thirty centuries; they yielded only to irresistible force, and they would gladly re-establish the ancient exclusive policy. It now looks as if the real object of the Burlingame mission was not progress, but an endeavor to make some treaties by which they might at least check any further encroachments on the part of foreigners, and even gradually to restrict them in some degree in the use of privileges already granted. We have no idea that Mr. Burlingame so understood it; for we believe that he really desires to see China come out of her circle of exclusiveness, and maintain free and equal intercourse with all nations, and adopt the literature and science of the West; but he wishes her to be left alone, to make the advance in her own way and time. The foreign residents in China, almost without exception, deem this a fatal policy, and that, if left without pressure from abroad, she will never advance a

step. Such is also the opinion of Mr. Browne. The impression that the Burlingame policy had completely taken possession of the home governments is the cause of that extreme dissatisfaction so apparent in the correspondence under our notice.

If Mr. Burlingame is to blame at all, it is for drawing rather too highly colored pictures of Chinese civilization. That he did so honestly, we have not the least doubt; and that Chinese civilization is of a kind to produce a deep impression on the Western imagination, and therefore to excite very false expectations with regard to it, is also very certain. But, no matter how the affair may end, he will be entitled to the credit of having made a really noble effort to establish between the Chinese Empire and Christendom relations in which the former might find refuge from a long period of anarchy, in which nearly everything that is valuable in Chinese civilization will be lost; for if, through any cause, the empire should be broken up, anarchy must ensue; no Western power has the means of assuming the reins of government; and even if any Western power ventured to undertake the task, it would take many years to effect even a partial reorganization of so vast a body.

One of the signs of what the foreign residents consider the perfidy of the Chinese, and which has made most impression on them, is the great increase in the number of attacks on foreigners which have taken place within the last few months; and they anticipate, and not unnaturally, this increase to continue should the European powers, as well as the United States, persist in their determination to refer all such cases for redress to the Imperial Government at Peking, through diplomatic channels, instead of, as heretofore, seeking satisfaction from the local authorities at the cannon's mouth. Men who pass their nights and days surrounded by swarms of Chinese, and who have reached, no matter through what channel, the conclusion that the Imperial Government is engaged in a great game of humbug, and has no desire, even if it had the ability, to make the sojourn of foreigners in its dominions either safe or comfortable, are of course very likely to be just now extremely nervous and suspicious, and to put a worse construction on Chinese doings than they merit. As our readers know, we believe thoroughly in the power of justice and fair dealing over everybody—barbarian, Scythian, bond, and free—and believe that they have never yet been fairly tried on the Chinese; but we nevertheless confess we attach a good deal of importance to the opinions of European and American residents in China on Chinese affairs. There is something very amusing in the scornful indignation with which some of our writers, in New York and elsewhere, knowing very little more of China than of the moon, treat any opinions of the Christian residents there which clash with any *a priori* conclusions we happen to have formed here of what our policy towards China ought to be, or what the Chinese are likely to do. To read some of the diatribes heaped upon them, one would imagine that anybody who had lived ten or twenty years in China as an American or English merchant was *ipso facto* disqualified for forming or expressing any opinion whatever on Chinese politics, government, or society, and that the true sources of light on all such questions were writers in the home papers here who had "got themselves up" on China out of Appleton's Encyclopædia and missionary reports. We do not think traders, established in factories on semi-barbarous shores, are always enlightened or impartial judges of what is going on in the country in which their lot is cast, or that their opinions are by any means always uncolored by selfishness; but we must say we have never seen anything in the character and standing of American residents in China to cause us to pay no attention to what they say on a subject about which they possess all the knowledge there is to be had, about which few other persons possess any knowledge whatever, and on which knowledge is extraordinarily difficult to get.

#### FINANCIAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

In looking over the rows and columns of widespread "financial" advertisements contained nowadays in almost every paper of any circulation, many persons are reminded of the unceasing growth of our national and individual activity, some will reflect upon the profitability of enterprises that can afford such lavish expense, and here and

there one will speculate upon the handsome income the newspapers derive therefrom. But who troubles himself about what, after all, is to the general public, or at least should be, the most important consideration, namely, the manner in which these costly advertisements affect the honesty, the truth, the independence of the press? It is not too much to say that there is no power in the Government, in the parties, or the church, that can influence the press as effectually as the financial class do by means of their advertising patronage. Far be it from us to assert that the financial classes, as a rule, seek to corrupt the press; still less that the press, as a rule, is venal; but undoubtedly the system of financial advertising has been developed to a degree of perfection that almost destroys the dividing line between a business bargain and downright bribery. Few persons have any idea of the insidious influence over the press acquired by means of this system. There are, to begin with, a certain class of journals devoted to financial and business specialties, that have an extended list of subscribers, who frequently are called on very irregularly, or not at all, for their subscriptions. As long as these so-called subscribers allow the paper to be brought into their offices, to lie on their tables and desks, and thus be seen habitually in respectable places, that is all that is required of them. These papers form the very ground-work of the fabric to be reared. To them are given the first advertisements of any new enterprise about to be brought before the public in the orthodox way. The bargain between the publisher and the advertiser generally reads: so many dollars per week for a whole column of advertising and half a column of editorial notice, the editorial notice to be furnished by the advertiser. In these papers the advertiser is not restricted by any consideration, except his own views of what is politic. He may state, editorially, what he pleases. If his assertions are controverted by correspondents, the letters are not published as long as the advertiser is willing to pay for keeping them out. If other journals deny his statements, he can expose their venality and corruption in his next "editorial." Such a paper is owned, body and soul, by any one who chooses to pay a certain number of dollars a column for advertising in it; and yet such papers, by means of a variety of useful information not readily found elsewhere, and of a forced circulation, manage to maintain a certain interest and an uncertain respectability, without which they would be useless as a vehicle for the financial advertiser. The financial agent of any new scheme—a mining company, a railroad, a life-insurance company, a steamship line—begins his course with an illustrated, monogrammed, or otherwise noticeable advertisement in the *Broad Street Press* or the *Weekly Steamship*, accompanied by a modest editorial, full of latent and compressed enthusiasm, setting forth, amid statistical tables and historical parallels, the undoubted merits and glorious future of the new undertaking.

Of course it is not expected that this glowing account will be extensively read in the obscure journals in which it is published. It is indeed not published to be read; it is only published to be quoted. A day or two after the first appearance of the advertisement in the *Broad Street Press*, the advertising agent appears at the office of some of the respectable but struggling dailies or weeklies, and, after bargaining for a month's advertising, makes the stipulation that the paper shall occasionally copy and insert semi-editorially extracts from other papers in relation to the new company, which will be kindly furnished by the agent himself. In this way many a newspaper editor, striving to be honest and fair, is yet induced to reprint an outrageous puff from the *Weekly Steamship*, and soothes his conscience with the excuse that every reader sees that the paragraph is an extract from another paper, is not endorsed by him at all, and is given merely as a piece of general news. In this paper the notice copied from the editorial furnished to the *Weekly Steamship* by the company's advertising agent begins to do mischief; for many of its readers do not discriminate between extracts and editorials, some fail to notice that it is an extract, many have confidence in the paper, and some know the editor personally and believe in his honesty and financial shrewdness. But this is only a very insignificant portion of the effect aimed at; for the individuals induced to subscribe money to any enterprise by this class of journals are comparatively few in number and limited in means. The main purpose of inserting the advertisement and puff in the feebler dailies and weeklies is to gain



access thereby to the principal journals in the large cities all over the country, the great leaders of public opinion, the papers having the largest circulation. These have to be approached with considerable caution and tact. First, the financial editor, whose business it is to give information on such topics, is invited to examine the scheme. He is requested to call attention in a general way to the advertisement "in another column," and to notice how favorably the undertaking is commented upon by the whole press, especially the highly respectable but not over-flourishing daily and weekly papers referred to. The financial editor is noted everywhere for his affability. His professional success depends upon his popularity with the men from whom financial information is obtained. He knows the high character and business standing of the firms having the new undertaking in charge. He has confidence in their representations. He recommends investment in the enterprise as one that cannot fail of success, and his recommendation carries considerable weight. Few people, however, read the financial column of any paper; it is the grave editorial on the fourth page, that every one believes to have been written by the editor-in-chief, that carries the day. Armed with all the endorsements of the press, the advertising agent now approaches the editorial sanctum of the chief editor and proprietor of the *Daily Thunderer*. The enterprise itself is undoubtedly sound, the financial editor of the *Thunderer* has already endorsed it, and—although this, of course, is a consideration of no moment—the advertisement of the company will be worth \$500 a month. And next day there appears in the editorial columns of that widely read and trusted journal a gross puff of an enterprise which in itself may be most profitable and desirable, but of the real merits of which the editor is totally incapable of judging.

We have no idea of suggesting ever so remotely that any one of the important enterprises which have had the public support and confidence during the last few years of stupendous activity has failed to merit that confidence, or that any of the numerous enterprises now before the people are other than sound and eminently safe. We are totally incompetent to express an opinion thereon; but what we do suggest and assert is, that the system by which the editorial endorsement of such schemes is obtained is unsound, demoralizing, and totally destructive of the independence and usefulness of the press.

The ability to judge of the value of any kind of security as a permanent investment is by no means common; the knowledge necessary to form such judgment is acquired only by special study; neither the ability nor the knowledge comes naturally to the editorial fraternity. On the contrary, their ability in that particular direction is, in the very nature of things, apt to be limited; while the knowledge which they may acquire is almost in every single instance derived from the very parties in interest, and is generally accompanied by an advertising fee, which inevitably predisposes the most incorruptible of men in favor of the person or enterprise offering it. On this account, all recommendations in the press of any security whatsoever should be looked upon as valueless, and, whenever accompanied by liberal advertising, as actually suspicious. Such opinions are not only valueless and open to suspicion, but they may be actually mischievous. That editorial jewel, consistency, binds the newspaper man to adhere eternally to an opinion once expressed—to adhere to it not only in the columns of his paper, but in the daily intercourse of private life. The enterprise which he honestly recommended yesterday, to-day may seem doubtful. He cannot now admit that he gave that warm support on insufficient information. He accepted the liberal advertising fee with the implied obligation of editorial endorsement. He cannot now turn round and stab his client in the back. He has to stand by the judgment once uttered, and continue to praise, though he may doubt if praise be merited; and thus, from unintentionally misleading his readers, he gradually drifts into conscious deceit.

Of course there are journals, here and elsewhere, whose commendation cannot be purchased at any price. Two or three of our great dailies are notoriously above suspicion; but they maintain themselves free from taint solely by absolutely and entirely abstaining from all reference to any financial enterprise advertising in their columns. In no other way can any newspaper maintain its independence, its self-respect, its usefulness, and the confidence of its readers. But even in

these cases the financial advertisement exercises a powerful influence over all but the most resolute and unflinching. It is not only positive support and endorsement that the advertiser claims, he also stifles adverse criticism. Not only must the paper refrain from unfavorable comment upon the special scheme advertised, but it must not even reflect upon other similar schemes. An exposure of the mismanagement of one life-insurance company has been known to deprive respectable journal of every life-insurance advertisement in its columns. A reflection upon the conduct of a railroad company caused one paper to lose the advertisement even of the time-table of all railways, while another more recently was, in addition, denied the sale upon the cars of the road unfavorably mentioned. Few people form any idea of the value of such advertisements as a source of income to the newspapers. When a large life-insurance company, recently organized in this city and elsewhere, with a capital of one million of dollars, held its first meeting of directors, it was resolved to spend at once one hundred thousand dollars, ten per cent. of its capital, in advertising. Another life-insurance company of great wealth and old standing is recently said to have expended nearly fifty thousand dollars in less than two months in advertising an extract from its annual report. Advertising agents estimate the expenses of the Union Pacific Railroad at certainly not less than several hundred thousand dollars for advertising its bonds. Any one familiar with the cost of advertisements can point to half a dozen enterprises that are at this moment expending from five to ten thousand dollars a month in recommending their securities to the public. It is easy to see that the financial advertisements of the present day constitute one of the principal sources of income for the whole press.

To lose this income is, of course, a serious blow, even to the wealthy daily papers; it is annihilation to the weaker ones. What confidence, then, can the public have in the recommendations of financial enterprises contained in newspapers that so largely depend upon those enterprises for their support? Evidently none. What can financial enterprises gain by recommendations that must ever be exposed to the suspicion of being bought? Evidently nothing. The bargain between the newspaper and the advertiser is simple. The advertiser pays for the privilege of submitting his advertisement to so many thousand persons at the expense of the newspaper. Anything beyond this is corrupt and dishonorable, and opens the way for the gravest frauds. It is high time that a healthy public opinion should be awakened on this subject. Without it, the weaker newspapers will become the merest tools of financial advertisers, and even the stronger ones will not long be able to maintain their purity. Let it once be understood that an editorial recommendation of any financial enterprise advertised in the same is necessarily corrupt, and there will soon be an end to the present debasing system; and no one will have better reason to be pleased than the sound and substantial concerns whose meritorious undertakings need only to be brought to the attention of the public to secure at once its support and co-operation. The editor who, without more knowledge than any editor can pretend to have, recommends any security as a safe investment to widows, orphans, and aged persons, is guilty of one of the most heartless and inexcusable of frauds.

#### THE BOAT-RACE.

WE doubt if many people have rightly appreciated the difficulties with which the American crew had to contend last Friday—although one or two journals, the *World* certainly, pointed them out early in the season—because few understand the extent to which what may be called the athletic mania prevails among the upper classes in England. The state of things among them at this moment is one the like of which has probably never elsewhere been seen. In more than one of the great public schools—Eton at the head of the list—the time and attention of a large portion of the boys are occupied almost exclusively with boating and cricket, the studies of the school being treated by them as of little or no consequence, and the acquisition of skill in outdoor amusements being set down as the principal object of being at the school; and all this not only with the connivance, but the approval, of the masters. Indeed, the other day an advertisement for an assistant master appeared in an English paper, in which good bowling was mentioned as an essential qualification; and at Eton a considerable portion of the time of the masters is taken up with teaching the boys

cricket and rowing; and it is by his excellence in these that a boy's standing in the school is measured. Success in study is not treated as a merit at all unless accompanied by skill in athletic sports; it was testified before an Endowed Schools Commission that, years ago, a studious boy "was not thought the worse of" for being studious if he was good in the cricket-field or on the water. In fact, the public schools of England at this moment are little better than gymnasia in the literal sense of that term. Many of the masters profess to deplore this state of things, but say they cannot help it. The great increase in the national wealth has crowded the schools with the sons of the *nouveaux riches*, who are anxious to have their children associate with the children of the older aristocracy, and to acquire their tastes and habits; and, as long as they do this, do not care about their receiving any mental training whatever. The origin of the evil, however, goes a good way further back. The ideal youth of the landed class in England has never been a youth who knew a good deal, but a manly, truthful, reserved, plucky fellow. The eldest sons were of course not expected to do anything for a living, and would have scorned even the appearance of qualifying themselves to earn one. For the younger sons, on the other hand, there existed the army and navy, and the diplomatic and Indian and Civil Service, and in none of these were educational qualifications of any kind exacted. Places and promotion in them were got by favor and connection, not by education; and as far as mere personal quality went, a man got on better in them by the possession of certain moral and physical traits than any mental ones. The schools, consequently, prepared the kind of man which the upper classes of English society called for, to which there would have been no special objection on the part of other people, if the upper classes had not coolly appropriated the rich endowments left for the instruction of the poor, and used them in fitting up and carrying on these curious institutions for their own sons.

The habits and ideas of the schools have of course been carried to the universities. During the recent Parliamentary enquiry into their condition, many graduates of the highest standing—Mr. Charles Roundell, secretary of the Jamaica Commission, for one, himself a boating man—expressed in strong terms their sense of the injurious effect, both on scholarship and character, of the prevailing rage for athletic sports. They occupy by far the larger share of the time and interest and attention of the larger portion of the students of Oxford and Cambridge, leading to a sort of ill-concealed contempt for knowledge, and a deep and deepening worship of muscle; and several of the witnesses spoke in strong terms of the brutalizing effect of this on the *tone* of the students; others, too, have found no difficulty in connecting it with the mode of suppressing the Indian mutiny and the Jamaica rebellion, and with the attitude of the upper classes of late years towards *weak* people of all races.

Now the general effect of this is, that most of the English boys at least of three of the great public schools and two of the universities may be said to be training for a boat-race from the age of twelve to twenty-four. They live during these twelve years in a society in which little but rowing, cricketing, riding, and shooting are talked; in which the things which make for muscle, wind, and bottom, are constant subjects of experiment and discussion; in which all the niceties of rowing are as familiar as daily practice and precept and the traditions of three or four generations can make them; and in which muscular vigor and dexterity may be said to be transmitted from father to son. The consequence is, that the captain of a Cambridge or Oxford University crew has, it is fair to say, his pick of about a thousand young men in first-rate physical and moral "condition." We do not mean, of course, that he actually chooses out of that number; but the dozen he does choose from have been presented to him by a process of natural sifting performed on the whole body.

If we contrast this state of things with that in which the Harvard crew was formed, we shall have some idea of the unfavorable conditions under which the Americans rowed the late race; even if we leave out of sight altogether the change of climate, food, and water, and the presence of a vast multitude whose sympathies were with the other side—no unimportant matter, as everybody knows who has ever had to struggle, with nerves at high tension, for anything whatever, under unfriendly eyes. The taste for athletic sports in America is not over fifteen years old. It is only within the last ten or twelve years that it can be said to have found a firm foothold in the colleges. Even now the schools do little to encourage it, and most boys come up to Harvard and Yale in complete ignorance of boating and most other outdoor games, though base-ball has been of late years a good deal cultivated. At both colleges, too, the number of students who cultivate rowing is small, very small; it costs money, and the mass are poor; it costs time, and the mass

are busy preparing to earn their living at the earliest possible moment. The consequence is that a dozen is, perhaps, as many as the captain of a crew has to choose from, and this dozen have comparatively little experience, and no great boating traditions—which, as regards morale, is no light matter—behind them.

All this is to be taken into account, not in judging the American crew which rowed last Friday's race, but in judging the value of the race as a test of the comparative capacity of the two universities, or of the physical endurance of the young men of the two countries. To try this question fairly, we shall probably have to wait a few years longer—till base-ball and other sports have raised the physical value of the contributions of the schools to the universities here, and till the taste for boating is diffused amongst a larger class in the universities. This will give a wider field of selection in making up the crews, and will probably furnish in them a better index of American prowess than is now possible. We need hardly say that we do not by all this mean to insinuate any disparagement of the gallant fellows who last week represented Harvard on the Thames. We looked, if not for victory, for even a closer result than actually occurred, and we shall need more details than are now in our possession before we can form anything like an accurate judgment of the causes of the defeat. Upon the facts, as now known to us, it would appear, however, that it was neither the American stroke nor strength that was at fault; that the direct cause of the failure was a want of bottom; and bottom is, perhaps, the thing of all others which is most dependent, let the physical constitution be ever so good, on diet, climate, and surroundings. It is largely a matter of nerves, and, therefore, very readily affected by slight and even imperceptible influences. The over-excitement caused by preparation for an arduous task in a strange *milieu*, and still more by its performance in a comparatively unfamiliar scene, before a foreign and necessarily hostile audience, would account readily for the failure of the Harvards to maintain to the end the tremendous pace which they led during the first part of the race. Considering everything, no American need contemplate it without pride, and we may feel assured the spectacle has been by no means what Englishmen looked for when the challenge was first given.

As regards the future, there is of course little doubt that the trial will be repeated. In fact, it is not improbable that we shall before long witness periodical competitions between English and American universities; but to ensure something like an equality of conditions, either the state of society in America would have to be greatly changed—a large and rich class of the population literally going into training, fathers, mothers, sons, and all—or the field of selection have to be greatly extended in making up the crews. The American crew ought really in fairness to contain the rowing cream of *all* the American colleges, and even then it would suffer from want of experience, because it is neither likely nor desirable that we shall ever see in any American university as large a supply of rowing men as Oxford and Cambridge contain.

The difference of climate, and other differences of surroundings, must still remain. Whether Americans go to England to row, or Englishmen come here, a certain inequality, and often a serious one, must be caused by the change of air and diet; and every crew must suffer from having the banks lined with unfriendly witnesses. Yale suffers from it every year at Worcester—suffers from it so much that Harvard ought in fairness to consent to change the course at least every alternate year; Harvard suffered from it on the Thames; if Englishmen came here to row, they would, owing to certain peculiarities in the national character, probably suffer from the newness of their surroundings far more than Americans. The Englishman, though wonderfully adventurous, is not by any means an adaptable animal; and in foreign countries, no matter how amiable he may be, undergoes an immense amount of nervous tear and wear from mere exposure to novelties of one sort or other. This difficulty can, of course, never be overcome entirely. If, as we think by no means unlikely, there should eventually be an Anglo-Saxon Olympic—bringing together the rowers, batters, bowlers, yachters, runners, leapers of the race for a trial of strength, once in four years, from all parts of the world—some, if not all, would inevitably have to suffer a good many serious inconveniences. All could not enjoy their native air, their familiar diet, and the shouts of admiring friends, and the uncertainty there will always prevail as to the exact effect of external changes on the physical powers, will always make these trials in a measure unsatisfactory, and may make them a source of perennial contention. The party which leaves its home will always expect a good deal of allowance to be made for it, and the party which stays at home be unwilling to make any, and hence will flow more or less bickering and discontent. By taking up all the little differences, and exag-



gerating them, and inflaming all disputes by throwing in a little abuse of its own, the press on both sides of the water may make these international games curses to the human race, instead of benefits to either country. The English press has only to assume a sniffing, incredulous tone every time Americans offer to try conclusions with Englishmen in some field of activity which Englishmen exclusively have hitherto cultivated, and the American press has only to suspect John Bull of a constant and incurable desire to cheat, and threaten to take "the stiffening out of him," to drive every lover of his kind into wishing before long for a revival of the old monkish contempt for the body.

### WAS IT A MYSTIFICATION?

WE presume that the public has nearly supped full of the horrors of the Stowe-Byron business, and are ready to turn away surfeited from the loathly topic—at least, until it is sent back in a rehash from London, and the appetite is revived by the new sauces with which the old scandal may be served up. The truth of Mrs. Stowe's story seems to have been almost universally denied by the press. Some think Lady Byron had lost her senses by brooding over her wrongs, and that this story was a figment of her disordered brain. One or two have taken the ground that it was a pure invention of deliberate wickedness, laid by until everybody that could contradict it was dead, and the author of it as well, so that she could not be called to account for it. She has been treated somewhat as Byron says he was by his wife, under the metonymy of Don José and Donna Inez in "Don Juan."

"Falling to prove that she was 'mad,'  
They next decided she was only *bad*."

And this is one of the cleaving mischiefs of Mrs. Stowe's story, that it lays Lady Byron open to this imputation to the end of time, preposterous as the suggestion seems to all that knew her personally or through common friends of unquestioned authenticity. Perhaps the most comical of all the denials of this particular crime of Byron's—if a smile may be permitted when dwelling on so grave a subject—are those resting on his poems to his sister and the allusions to her in different parts of his works! As if a man capable of such a crime were not capable also of employing his prodigious powers to hide it from the world, and perhaps partially even from himself, by the charms and graces of his poetry!

Now, no one can be more desirous than are we that the perfume should be restored to those delicious flowers of song, and that they should not be changed into loathsome weeds springing out of the foulest corruption, from which every pure mind must turn with disgust. We trust that every trace of the trail of this serpent may be made to disappear from those sweet blossoms whose fragrance has always seemed to smell the most of heaven of all in the magic wreaths of the poet. And we will contribute our conjecture towards this lustration. We confess that we could at first see no way of escape from the acceptance of Lady Byron's explanation of the cause of her conduct at the time of the separation. It was impossible not to believe that she firmly believed the fact to be in substance—though it could not have been in form—as Mrs. Stowe has given it to the world, and it was hard to believe that she should believe this without sufficient evidence. The perfect explanation which this story gave to every part of the mystery which had hung for so many years over this transaction, as we showed last week, was a strong corroboration of her statement. But it has occurred to us that there is yet another hypothesis, which we have not yet seen broached, not improbable in itself or inconsistent with the characters of the principal parties, which would clear away the thick and gloomy shadows which now brood over them, and leave them as they were before this murky cloud gathered about them. We would submit whether this delusion on the part of Lady Byron—for such we would most joyfully believe it to be—may not have had its origin in a mystification on the part of her husband? His whole poetical character, as the wandering Childe, is one entire and perfect mystification. He was no such kind of a man as he shadows himself forth in "Childe Harold." Dallas, while he does not deny that Byron was a debased youth, declares that all the particulars of his life as given in the first Canto are merely fanciful. He had not the fortune to support such a state of things. And the moody, melancholy youth which he personated in the poem was merely masquerading for effect. Either Dallas or Medwin—or both, for we have not their books at hand—tells us that he used at times to hint to his friends that he had been guilty of some frightful crime, remorse for which was gnawing at his heart. This style of mystification in his poems and in his life was to try and make people think

him worse even than he was—a most superfluous extravagance, one would think.

Now, is it impossible that, in some one of the moods of mind which he used to gratify by these dark intimations to his friends, he may have tried the same game on his wife? May he not have first hinted this horror, or plainly told it to her, to try his power over her, to see the effect it would have on her nerves, and to gratify whatever morbid instinct it might be which prompted him to his other blackenings of himself? His whole life shows him to have been destitute of all proper delicacy of feeling which it might be supposed would have prevented his using his sister's name in such a connection. Though a genius of the highest order, he was also a blackguard of the lowest. He was more than "half dust," though what he had of "deity" was far beyond the range of most great geniuses. There was nothing to hinder his telling this tale of horror if the freak took him. Was there anything to hinder his wife from believing it? On this point, every one must form his own opinion according to his opportunities of making it up. We know there are persons into whose head, as Charles Lamb said (or was it Sidney Smith?), a joke could not be got without a surgical operation. It is barely possible that Lady Byron may have been of this order. There are others, and sensible people too, who will believe any statement, however absurd, if it be made with a grave face. There is no great credence to be given to Byron's caricature of his wife as Donna Inez; but that her turn of mind was mathematical and scientific rather than imaginative may perhaps be received even on his authority. That she was a pure-minded, benevolent, excellent person, of considerable talents, but rather matter-of-fact and prosaic in her temperament, seems to be the general impression made on the average of people that knew her. Such a person is often the very fittest one to play such poor trick upon.

That she did not believe it to be a sane statement at first, as we have said formerly, there is good ground for believing. But the fact of her husband's sanity established, what ground had she of doubting his statement? And as for the lack of evidence, is not the confession of a criminal the very highest kind of evidence against him? What did she need more? The whole question resolves itself into one as to her veracity, which, we imagine, hardly any one will seriously or permanently doubt. If her testimony were to what she had seen and known, we should hold the case closed and conviction assured. But where it is only to what she believed, the question is still open as to whether she were right or wrong in her belief. We shall probably never know what it was that came to her knowledge between the 8th and the 15th of January. It may have been proof of the crime, indeed. But, on the other hand, it may have been only evidence which convinced her of her husband's sanity, and so of the sufficiency of his confession. And thus it may be true that Byron really did not know the reason of the separation. He may have been "getting drunk with Sheridan" when he told the story, and have entirely forgotten it. Or he may not have supposed it possible that his wife would seriously believe it. If there be a shadow of doubt, as surely it must be allowed there is, let him have the benefit of it, and yet more his sister. This idea has been a comfortable one to ourselves, and we throw it out for the benefit of others. But it is a calamity to all concerned, whether true or not, that Lady Byron ever allowed this story to be told. She should have let it die with her—for the imputations from which it frees her, if believed, were trifling ones, that did not touch her good name in any way. That good name will be none the brighter for the telling of this tale, be it true or false.

## Correspondence.

### WHAT THE HARVARD UNIVERSITY LECTURES REALLY WILL BE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: You and your correspondents have two or three times mentioned, with interest and approval, the proposed course of university lectures at Harvard College. The hopes, however, as well as the fears expressed in regard to the undertaking seem to show that neither they nor you have exactly apprehended its real purpose and spirit. It is spoken of as an important and rather novel course of lectures by really able men, affording an agreeable variety of entertainment and culture for persons of leisure in the neighborhood of Cambridge, and one which may at any rate be made serviceable to the undergraduates on the spot, if the somewhat excessive fee of \$150 does not keep them away. As for people at a distance, they are hardly likely to go so far to hear lectures read, which,

by waiting a year or two, they will probably have a chance of reading to themselves. The natural inference from this presentation of the subject, though it is an inference you kindly refrain from drawing, is that the experiment, although interesting in itself, and especially so as marking the infusion of new blood into the veins of our oldest university, does not concern the general public, and must owe what little success it is likely to achieve to local favor and patronage.

This conclusion would be just, and indeed inevitable, if the scheme were just such as you suppose. In point of fact, it is as unlike as possible. It does not, in the first place, contemplate a series of popular lectures, easy expositions of difficult subjects, like those of the Sorbonne and the Collège de France. These have their place; but it is not a place the universities of this country need go out of their way to fill, so long as their more serious and legitimate work remains undone. Nor is it proposed to use this means to stimulate in the undergraduates a livelier interest in their work. Changes and reforms are doubtless to be looked for with this object in view, but the present undertaking is not among them. Its purpose is not so much to improve the methods of the academic cultus as to extend its range, to cover new and higher ground, and to offer to those who have accomplished their college course, or otherwise mastered the elements of a liberal culture, an opportunity of pursuing into the higher regions of scholarship the education they have begun. It has been the reproach of American schooling that, while it has provided abundantly for the lower education, it has not offered the means of pursuing a single subject of thought into its highest branches. The establishment of various schools of pure and applied science has done something to redeem us from this reproach, so far as concerns the exact and natural sciences. But in literature and philosophy, except so far as the ground is covered by the advanced courses at New Haven, our students have still to look abroad if they wish for any assistance in carrying their studies beyond the elementary textbooks. This is not because we have no men of literary or philosophical eminence, but because there has existed no means of bringing these students to their feet. It is this want that these lectures, or lessons, as you will observe that they are called, as better conveying the idea of personal counsel and instruction, are intended to supply. It is clear that, if they are properly adapted to this end, they are unsuited to boys in college, and almost equally so to the general body of the intelligent public. They constitute, in fact, in the branches of which they treat, a system of post-graduate instruction, and are intended, with the study necessary to enable the student to profit by them, to occupy the whole of his time and attention for the thirty or forty weeks they cover. This means serious, hard work—such work as neither the undergraduates nor the general public have time or inclination for. It may turn out that there is really nobody in the country that cares to work in this way. It may be that nobody really cares enough about philosophy, for example, to give up a year to its study, even under the inspiration and guidance and personal advice and direction of the best men, take them altogether, that the country affords—very much the best men that it has been found practicable to unite in this service. If so, the experiment will fail; but those who have projected it and those who have consented to take part in it will have the satisfaction of knowing that the fault lies with the community for lack of zeal, not with themselves for slackness in duty. But if there are found half-a-dozen, men or women, young or old, to respond to this call, the experiment will have succeeded. It will prove that there is in this country a demand for a higher culture, and the college will be encouraged to extend the scheme, and to establish permanent instruction not in literature and philosophy alone, but in all the humanities—political economy, for instance—the fine arts, philology, politics, or jurisprudence.

In this point of view, it is plain enough that what interest the undertaking possesses is general, and not local; and that it immediately concerns a small and special class of serious students, wherever found, who are willing to pursue for a year a really scholastic life. The work is not less important or the instruction less valuable than in the professional schools. The fees are the same as in them. The real pecuniary obstacle to such students, as in the case of those schools, lies not in the amount of the fees, but in the expense of supporting life during a year of unproductive labor. The fees, as it is, are likely to afford only a nominal compensation to the lecturers. In this connection, indeed, it is to be observed that a considerable pecuniary sacrifice is involved in the regulation that prevents attendance upon the lessons of any special instructor. The income that might be derived from thus casually entertaining the general public is deliberately foregone for the sake of the students—select, though few—whose work could not fail to be interrupted by the irregular attend-

ance of an exoteric crowd. It is wise, also, to protect the lecturers themselves from the perplexities, not to say temptations, that a mixed audience presents. This restriction is a guaranty to those who may be proposing to avail themselves of these privileges that no pains will be spared to prevent the scheme being diverted from its purpose and to maintain the high character proposed for it.

The substance of some of this instruction may ultimately, it may be presumed, find its way into print in one form or another; but, even if this could be done at once, it is not what the student needs. What he needs is not one book the more, written by however learned and advanced a thinker, but the thinker himself. There is an advantage to be gained from personal contact with scholars quite beyond what can be got from their writings. It is that they may furnish this that seats of learning exist, and it is this in great part that distinguishes men educated at college from the self-educated. For men in colleges whose poverty obliges them to teach the students by herds, this advantage is not altogether lost. It is fully enjoyed only in the case of absolutely private instruction; but lessons given to small and select classes, such as these promise to be, are the next best thing, and are a much better sort of thing than has hitherto been publicly offered. Two or three lessons a week in successive courses, covering three or four weeks apiece, taking up not the commonplaces of information, on which the student may equally well inform himself by his reading, but special points of interest—each treated by a man specially qualified to discuss it—promise to fill a year's time as profitably and agreeably as the student could desire.

AMICUS CURLE.

Boston, August 27, 1869.

#### A MISTRANSLATION BY LORD BYRON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Mrs. Stowe's promulgation of a hideous story, long current in secret, yet little believed, has had among other effects that of making some of us re-read our Byron with additional interest. In the course of such a re-perusal, I have just stumbled upon a queer mistake. The accuracy and power of Byron's versions from the Italian would never lead one to suspect him of inaccuracy in a kindred tongue; yet in his ballad of "Alhama," we find the twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth stanzas thus rendered:

"He who holds no laws in awe,  
He must perish by the law;  
And Granada must be won  
And thyself with her undone."

"Fire flashed from out the old Moor's eyes;  
The monarch's wrath began to rise,  
Because he answered, and because  
He spake exceeding well of laws."

"There is no law to say such things  
As may disgust the ear of kings;  
Thus, snorting with his choler, said  
The Moorish king and doomed him dead."

The second of these stanzas runs thus in the original:

"Fuego por los ojos vierte  
El Rey que esto oyera,  
Y como el otro de leyes,  
De leyes tambien hablava"—

that is, literally:

"The king who heard this darted fire from his eyes, and, as the other (had spoken) of laws, he spoke of laws also"—

or, metrically:

"Then the monarch's eyes flashed fire;  
What he heard had moved his ire,  
And what of laws the other said,  
He turned back on the old man's head."

Byron's mistake seems to have originated in taking *tambien*—"also"—as if it were two words: *tan bien*—"so well." I believe this portion (though not the whole) of the mistranslation has already been noticed by some critic.

CARL BENSON.

#### A WORD FOR CRICKET.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: It is so very seldom that any but a sporting paper concerns itself about the game of cricket in this country, that your incidental remarks on it in the *Nation* of the 26th inst. have excited particular comment amongst cricketers.

You rather put it that a man would lie if he said "that cricket is to-day one whit more in favor with the ball-playing public than it was thirty years ago." But being backed by a numerous and muscular body of cricketers in these parts, I make bold to say that, and invite you to come on—come on to Germantown, that is, and see the next match. Thirty years ago, cricket had not been heard of here, unless dimly as an English "insti-



tution;" but now, on the beautiful ground of the "Germantown" or "Young America" club, you may sit in the shade of fine old trees on a match-day and see a pretty sight, keenly enjoyed by hundreds of lookers-on, lots of pretty girls among them.

Philadelphia and Germantown maintain three first-class cricket clubs, "The Philadelphia," "The Germantown," and "The Young America," each of which has defeated the "St. George" club of New York. There are certainly 500 members of these three clubs. This is a ball-playing community, yet there are not three first-class base-ball clubs in Philadelphia and its vicinity.

Cricket in New York holds about the same relation to American cricket that the ships in Philadelphia held to American shipping before the war; and the reason is not far to seek. Did you ever go over to the "St. George" cricket ground at West Hoboken? It only takes two hours to get there from upper Broadway; and the journey includes omnibus ride, ferry-boat, horse-car through bad smells on New Jersey flats, a long drag up a steep hill, and then a walk of some distance.

Permit a cricket ground in Central Park, on the plain where the Paris-like shepherd feeds his flock, and you will soon have in New York a swarm of your best young men playing cricket—who do not now, and probably never will, play base-ball—who have leisure for cricket, and spend their leisure in no better way. No one supposes that cricket could become a national game for Americans; but there is a large class in this country who will take it up under favorable conditions. And on fields easy of access, there will then be no lack of spectators, for well-played cricket is in itself a beautiful game; athletic figures in white flannels, on a green sward, are very picturesque; and where there is a contest of manly skill between young fellows, then the people of their own class, at least, if they conveniently can, will certainly gather together.

Y. A. C. C.

GERMANTOWN, Pa., August 8, 1869.

## Notes.

### LITERARY.

"RUBY GRAY'S STRATEGY" is the title of an entirely new novel by Mrs. Ann S. Stephens, of whom her publishers say that "while this gifted authoress is a conscientious follower of nature, she has also that fine artistic sense which teaches that nature, when shown within the lines of art, must be measurably heightened, colored, and enlarged;" and we may add that what her artistic sense teaches, Mrs. Stephens's artistic hand performs with great boldness. Messrs. T. B. Peterson & Brothers are to publish the novel. The same house have in press Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth's "Prince of Darkness."—The Free Press Association of Burlington, Vermont, is about to issue a contribution to the history of the late war, in the shape of a work with the title of the "Vermont Brigade in the Shenandoah Valley." Its author is Colonel Aldace F. Walker, and it is said that he intends to prove that the credit of the stand which restored the fortunes of the day in the battle when Sheridan made his famous ride is due almost entirely to a division of the Sixth Corps—General Getty's division—of which the Vermont brigade was the centre. A bad regiment never came out of Vermont, and there is certainly no inherent improbability in what Colonel Walker says.—Messrs. Lee & Shepard, of Boston, announce no less than five new stories for boys, by "Oliver Optic," and also, as everybody will be glad to hear, a new story by the author of "Little Prudy." The same publishers have in preparation two books by Mrs. Rosa G. Abbott, whose success as a writer for youth is, like "Oliver Optic's," as good a proof as Oxenstiern himself could have desired of the smallness of the amount of wisdom with which men and women govern the world of children. A new writer of "juveniles," whom Messrs. Lee & Shepard introduce to us, is "May Mannerling;" and one whom they introduce to us for the second time is the Rev. Mr. Elijah Kellogg, whom some readers may recollect as the author of "Spartacus at Capua" and "Spartacus before the Roman Envoys in Etruria"—two tremendous things, which compel us to warn all parents and guardians against him, as a bad companion for the young. Whether or not Miss Louise M. Thurston's two stories, and Mr. J. D. McCabe's, and the Rev. Mr. Charles H. Pearson's, and Mrs. S. A. Southworth's—one a-piece—are for adults or for minors we are not sure; but probably we make no mistake in assuming that they are for minors. "Sermons, Letters, and Speeches on Slavery and its War, from the Passage of the Fugitive Slave Bill to the Inauguration of President Grant," is clearly for adults. It is the work of the Rev. Mr. Gilbert Haven, and may not unlikely have an interest hereafter which it cannot have now. "Jubilant Voices" is a collection of "New Hymn Tunes, Chants, Sentences, Motets, and

Anthems," which is designed for use in congregations of any denomination, and is compiled by Mr. B. F. Baker and Mr. D. F. Hodges.—Messrs. Claxton, Remsen & Haffelfinger announce a book called "Deus Semper," which, we are told, is by the author of "Semper Deus." Mr. W. W. H. Davis, of Doylestown, Pennsylvania, announces a "History of the Spanish Conquest of New Mexico," written by himself. There are old colonial records in New Mexico which are as yet known only vaguely to historical literature, and Mr. Davis's work will be looked for with some expectation.—Messrs. Allen Brothers announce a number of illustrated books of the kind considered suitable for presentation purposes. The poetical works of Mrs. L. H. Sigourney appropriately heads the list. Then follow "American Female Poets," by Caroline May; "British Female Poets," by Mr. G. W. Bethune; "Pearls," taken from both the foregoing, but which contain only five steel engravings instead of nine; "Pearls," also, of sacred poetry, by the Rev. Mr. Henry Hastings; "Elegant Poetical Extracts on Every Subject," by J. T. Watson; and "Elegant Poetical Extracts on Every Theme," by the same compiler, but also with five pictures instead of nine; "The Young Lady at Home and in Society," by Mrs. Tuthill; and "Famous Old Fairy Tales in Words of One Syllable," in four volumes, by Harriet B. Audubon.—Messrs. D. Lothrop & Co., of Boston, announce "The Queen of the Adriatic; or, Venice Past and Present," with thirty-one illustrations and some letterpress by Mr. W. H. Davenport. This house also—like Messrs. Scribner & Co. and Messrs. D. Appleton & Co.—seems to be doing something with the French "Wonder Series," and has in press wonders of "Creation," of "Vegetation," of "Nature," and "In Many Lands."—Messrs. J. B. Lippincott & Co. announce "The Great Empress," by Professor Schele de Vere; a "Memorial Volume of Howell Cobb," edited by Mr. S. Boykin; "The Masterpieces of Living English Painters," "The Sheepshanks Gallery," and "Turner's Celebrated Landscapes," which three latter, no doubt, are expensive holiday books.—Messrs. John Murphy & Co., of Baltimore, will publish Mr. Bowden's life of Father Faber; the Rev. Mr. Thomas Heyden's "Memoir of the Rev. Prince Demetrius A. Galitzin;" and "Order and Chaos," by Mr. T. W. M. Marshall. "Man in Genesis and Geology" is by the Rev. Dr. Joseph P. Thompson, and has for its second title "The Biblical Account of Man's Creation tested by Scientific Theories of his Origin and Activity." Mr. S. R. Wells is the publisher.

—Messrs. Charles Scribner & Co. announce a part of the list of new publications and republications which they have in hand for the fall and winter. As was to be expected, it includes more than one work that is of importance to the American religious world—a public which this house keeps in view, and to the taste of the more studious portion of which it caters with success. In September, Messrs. Scribner & Co. will add to the seven volumes of Dr. Lange's commentary on the Scriptures—which they have already published—an eighth, which contains the author's explication of the Epistle to the Romans. Later in the season, they will issue the ninth volume, containing the commentary on Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Canticles. The Rev. Mr. H. C. Alexander, a son of the Rev. Dr. J. Addison Alexander, who was a Presbyterian clergyman very well known in his day for his labors in the pulpit and with the pen, has written a life of his father, which will appear in October or November. The Rev. Dr. J. F. Hurst translates and writes for Messrs. Scribner & Co. Hagenbach's "Church of the Nineteenth Century." "Bible Animals" is a book by Mr. J. G. Wood, which will have one hundred illustrations. Dr. John Lord, a writer whose insufficiency has been very well exposed, but who still keeps a place among American literary workmen, is the writer of a work entitled "Ancient States and Empires," which will be uniform as regards external appearance—and, doubtless, as regards the value of its contents—with the same author's "Old Roman World." It would not, however, be correct to say that the contents of Dr. Lord's books are valueless; in good part they are taken bodily from other men's works; but there never yet was a mere plagiarist who could be depended upon to do plagiarism judiciously; and none of Dr. Lord's readers can read him with safety unless they are as well informed as he is, or better. Eleven volumes are in preparation of the "Illustrated Library of Wonders," which Messrs. Scribner & Co. have had translated from the French, or have republished from translations made in England, and of which two volumes have already been published. The eleven that are now under way are the wonders of "Egypt Thirty-three Hundred Years Ago," of "The Human Body," of "Light-houses," of "The Heavens," of "Pompeii," of "Architecture," of "The Bottom of the Ocean," of "Acoustics," of "The Sublime in Nature," of "Great Hunts," and of "The Intelligence of Animals." Of school-books—another specialty of

this firm—we find in the list before us three: an "American Speller," by Professor H. N. Day; "A Modern and Systematic Explanation of the Science of Chemistry," by Professor Le Roy C. Cooley; and a work on "Practical Composition," with numerous models and exercises, by Mrs. M. J. Harper. There are three titles, also, under the head of books designed for the holiday season: "Lady Geraldine's Courtship" is Mrs. Browning's poem, profusely illustrated with engravings by Mr. Linton, after designs by Mr. W. J. Hennessey; "Pictures of Edgewood" is a set of photographs—by Rockwood—with illustrated text by Mr. D. G. Mitchell, whose portrait constitutes the first picture in the volume; "Songs of Life" is made up of poems selected from the "Folk-Songs" which this house published some two or three years ago, and of illustrations by Messrs. Hennessey, Fenn, Griswold, Darley, Herrick, Bensell, and Hoppin.

—The American reading public will welcome to a place in the ranks of American publishers the very well-known and highly respected firm of Macmillan & Company, of London, who have taken the premises in Bleecker Street once occupied by Messrs. Ticknor & Fields, and afterwards by Messrs. Fields, Osgood & Co., and now formally style themselves Macmillan & Co. of New York. It is intended that all the books published by the house shall be obtainable at this branch of it; and, in addition to these, the American agency will offer for sale the Oxford University and the Clarendon Press series of text-books. The house's own list contains some titles of very good school-books, and the stores added to it by these two famous sets of books will make its collection well worth the attention of persons seeking works of instruction—the attention particularly of the managers of the more select private schools and academies. In general literature, the imprint of Macmillan & Co. may be said to be a guarantee of a high order of excellence. Turning the pages of the catalogue, we see the names of Sir Francis Palgrave; Francis Turner Palgrave; William Gifford Palgrave; Matthew Arnold; Dr. Austin; Lewis Carroll; Professor Airy; Sir Samuel Baker; Barnes, the rural poet; Gilchrist; Dante Rossetti and his sister—the truest poet among the women who write English poetry, and, for the genuineness of her gift, if not, indeed, for the value of it, among the first three or four of the American and English poets, male or female; Mr. John Morley; Arthur Hugh Clough; Archbishop Trench; Edwards; Freeman, the Author of "Ecce Homo;" Furnivall; Gladstone; "Tom Brown;" Hamerton; Huxley; both the Kingsleys; Maurice; Harriet Martineau; Phillimore; Arthur Helps, and many more whom we might mention if these were not enough to prove the distinction of the firm and the value of their books. The catalogue from which we have been quoting is a priced one, and we should judge from it that the American reprints of Macmillan's publications which have been so common over here have not been any cheaper than the originals will be hereafter.

—We do not know much about the "Theta Delta Chi Fraternity," but we learn that at its meeting in May last it was ordered that "a periodical should be published in the interests of college societies," and that one number of such a periodical has already been issued. The answer to its appearance is a very respectable list of subscriptions—not less than two thousand persons, in twenty-four colleges and universities, having put their names on the books. The *College Review*, as it is called, is hereafter to be a monthly journal of about the dimensions of this paper, though with four less pages, and its editors—without telling us what the "interests of college societies" may be—make some good promises as to its character. They intend to devote a considerable space to the review of college text-books, and if they can do this thoroughly well the existence of their paper will be fully justified. We make in this country some excellent text-books for both schools and colleges—more good ones for use in schools, perhaps, than for use in our higher institutions of learning. Probably there is no country where much better works of this class have been turned out. But if it is true that we make many excellent text-books, it is true, too, that in the immense number of such books that we make, very many bad ones can be found, and that there is just as much money and as much energy expended in the business of pushing the sale of these worse than worthless books as in pushing the sale of good ones. Any honest and intelligent criticism in this field, then, is of real service to the public, and we hope the editors of the *Review* will never mind the publishers, but even seek out bad books, and expose them. The *Review* will have regular correspondents in Berlin, Paris, and Madrid, and also one—Professor Otto—at the University of Brunswick. Regular communications may be expected also from Mr. Geo. William Curtis, President Angell of the University of Vermont, President Caswell and Professor Lincoln of Brown University, and Professor Wilson of Cornell. It seems to be intended that the strictly educational department of the *Review* shall be the department of critical notices of text-books, and to

make the rest of it more generally literary in character, though we suppose it is nearly all to be more or less educational. We may without discourtesy express the hope that the new paper will be free from a vice to which too many educational journals are addicted—the vice of permitting its columns to be filled with long-winded discussions of "the educational problem," which, in the hands of the seventh and eighth-rate educators who have now got well hold of it, is a bore of the first magnitude. Half of our educational journals are filled with platitudes on this and kindred topics, and it is not an exaggeration to say that of all the writing in such journals, the greater part ought to have been left unprinted at least, if not unwritten.

—We cannot speak particularly and precisely of the character of the several newspapers in Memphis, but the *Avalanche* of that city gives but a bad account of its neighbors the *Ledger*, the *Appeal*, and the *Sun*; and the *Post* also we suppose it means to describe as worthless; for we believe it is the *Post* that is the "Radical organ" in Memphis; and the *Avalanche* says of the Radical organ that "for three years it has been the filthy receptacle for the abuse and slander of every lying scribbler." Of the *Appeal* and the *Ledger* it remarks that for two years they followed itself, the *Avalanche*, "as naturally as the shadow follows the substance, or the sun-flower turns its head towards the luminous orb of day; it was the mill that ground all their grist. They opened their mouths and gulped down everything it said with that reliant faith with which a nest of young birds receive food from the bill of a protecting mother. These satellites revolved around the *Avalanche* as the earth and planets revolve around the sun." But the *Avalanche*, it seems, took to supporting the doctrine of universal suffrage, and then its fellow Democratic contemporaries adopted very different courses. "Our doctrine," says the *Avalanche*, "seemed to invigorate their pens, and they abused us with that vigor which the hope of rising upon the downfall of others always inspires. For two or three days the *Ledger* would peg away on the *Avalanche*. It would sting it; it would bite it; it would gouge it; then it would pause to rest and survey the damage it had done." The *Appeal* was, if anything, worse than the *Ledger*: "but there was no repose for the poor *Avalanche*; for next the old, wheezing, phthisicky, decrepit *Appeal* would hobble into the ring, pick up the *Ledger's* cast-off epithets, thoroughly chewed and ejected tobaccoquids, and roll them under its tongue as sweet morsels." The *Post*, of course, was not idle, but was "still squirting its filth." It was found, though, that even with the assistance of the Radical organ the conspirators were not strong enough for their old mentor, whereupon a call was made for reinforcements, and the *Sun* ran to the assault. Not, however, to any purpose. The *Avalanche* says: "But the recruit to the ranks of our assailants makes no new assault. The *Sun* editor picks the old beef-bone already gnawed by one bull-dog, two curs, three mongrels, four whelps, and a dozen mangy hounds; and he worries over it with all the earnestness of a puppy mumblyng an old cast-off brogan. Instead of having three assailants, as formerly, we now have four, all yelping and barking in full chorus." And so it goes on. One objection to this "forcible writing"—that it has no force—we do not find that any one of the forcible writers, in Memphis or here in New York, seems to understand. We might add Louisville to the list. Says the *Courier-Journal*, the other day, being angry about the charges made against Byron: "Sooner than even have contemplated it" (namely, the commission of "so low, vulgar, unnatural, debasing, and monstrous a crime"), "he would have thrown his naked head upon a dunghill, or plunged into a furnace of molten iron. Perish the thought from men's minds." We see this editor has been taken to task for his terrible violence by some of his brethren across the Ohio—which is a new illustration of Northern timidity, we should say.

—There is no saying whether there always will be, but we suppose that without doubt there always has been—since the foundation of Christianity, at any rate, if not since ever the earth and the world were made—a class of people whose ludicrous manner of supporting religion leads to exhibitions of what they would designate as blasphemy, but which it would be fairer to call exhibitions of that perception of the comic from which not even piously disposed persons are always exempt. Here, for example, is a slip of paper purporting to be the prospectus of "The Christian Life Insurance Company." It begins with the words, "I am the Life," which it says are taken from "the President's address." Next comes the legend in prominent type, "The largest in the World"—the company, namely—followed by the words, "A great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations and kindreds and peoples and tongues"—which words are credited to a "Report of a General Meeting." "Assets more than all other Companies combined" is followed



by the sentence—taken from "The Auditor's Report"—"All things are yours." "A special agent" is the authority for the statement that the "Premiums are low," his exact language being "Without price." There are also declarations, fortified by irreverent handling of various texts, that there are "Special Inducements to the Sick and Diseased," that "the Vaults are Burglar Proof," that the "Charter is Perpetual," that "there are Large Dividends," and so on. "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance," is a text described as being taken from a "Reply to a Member of Opposition," which last word seems to indicate that the prospectus is English. Indeed, these things usually are; for we hardly have here in the United States the sort of people with whom appeals of this kind are very powerful. Some such we have; but not a sufficient number to furnish an effective demand. Grotesque conceptions of divine things are common enough amongst us; but there is in literature of the order to which this prospectus belongs an unimaginativeness which marks it as done by a more prosaic mind, and intended for blunter unintelligences than those of our illiterate religionists.

—A nearly perfect list of the immortals of the French Academy, which we have recently had occasion to prepare, may very probably have considerable interest for our readers:

Born.	Received.
Comte Philippe Paul de Ségur.....	1780.
Duc Charles A. V. L. de Broglie.....	1785.
Pierre Antoine Lebrun.....	1785.
François Pierre Guillaume Guizot.....	1787.
Abel François Villemain.....	1790.
Jean B. A. A. Sanson de Pongerville.....	1792.
Henri Joseph Guillaume Patin.....	1793.
François Auguste Alexis Mignet.....	1796.
Charles Marie François de Rémusat.....	1797.
Adolphe Thiers.....	1797.
Jules Armand Stanislas Dufaure.....	1798.
Saint-Marc Girardin.....	1801.
Samuel Ustazade Silvestre de Sacy.....	1801.
Félix Antoine Philibert Dupanloup.....	1802.
Duc Paul de Noailles.....	1802.
Vicomte Victor Marie Hugo.....	1802.
Louis Vitet.....	1802.
Alfred Auguste Cuvillier Fleury.....	1802.
Prosper Mérimée.....	1803.
Comte Louise Marie de Carné.....	1804.
Charles Augustin Sainte-Beuve.....	1804.
Joseph Auguste Alphonse Gratry.....	1805.
Jean Marie Napoléon Désiré Nisard.....	1806.
Ernest Wilfrid Legouvé.....	1807.
Claude Gabriel Jules Favre.....	1809.
Comte Charles de Montalembert.....	1810.
Léonard Sylvain Jules Sandeau.....	1811.
Comte Alfred Pierre de Falloux.....	1811.
Pierre M. V. R. de Laprade.....	1812.
Charles Camille Doncet.....	1812.
Octave Feuillet.....	1812.
Joseph Antran.....	1813.
Claude Bernard.....	1813.
Guillaume V. E. Augur.....	1820.
Prince Jacques V. A. de Broglie.....	1821.
Lucien A. Prévost-Paradol.....	1829.
Comte d'Haussonville.....	1869.
A. Bashier.....	1869.
Comte de Champagny.....	1869.

The three last on the list were elected to fill the places of MM. Viennet, Empis, and Berryer. M. d'Haussonville was elected on the first ballot, receiving 19 votes out of 33; MM. Victor Hugo, Villemain, Montalembert, and Claude Bernard not being present. His opponents were Jules Lacroix, Léon Halévy, Xavier Marmion, Théophile Gautier, and M. Bashier. M. Bashier was elected on the fourth ballot, by 18 votes to Gautier's 14. For Berryer's place there were but two candidates, Duvergier de Hauranne and Comte de Champagny. There was but one ballot: for Champagny, 17; Duvergier de Hauranne, 15. From the days of Piron, who was "nothing, not even an academician," down to the present, it has always been easy to name a certain number of members of the Academy, and ask why they should be in while others were out; and to-day we may wonder why MM. de Noailles, de Carné, and de Champagny are academicians, while such other men as Littré, Philarette Chasles, Jules Janin, and Théophile Gautier are not. The answer to the query would involve a secret history of social and political as well as literary France, and would be much more interesting, we fear, than edifying. It would have been a field for the elder Disraeli—the story of the quarrels, and intrigues, and abasements, and hypocrisies of authors who wished to get in, or who wished to keep others out.

## PRESIDENT HOPKINS ON THE WOMAN QUESTION.\*

THE views of President Hopkins on female suffrage differ so much from those of Mr. Stuart Mill, that one might well suppose a chapter in his last work on moral science was intended as an answer to the English philosopher, if it were not that the book was published several months before the more recent work of Mr. Mill. But upon one point the two writers are agreed. President Hopkins holds that the question should be discussed "not in the form of a partisan discussion, but of a mutual enquiry what the rights of woman are, and how she may be elevated to the highest point in culture and legitimate influence. And upon such an enquiry man should enter with no less alacrity and candor than woman; for if there be anything which must react with swift retribution upon society, it is any needless ignorance or degradation of its wives and mothers." This acknowledgment of the necessity of discussion of the constantly recurring question of the day comes, it must be remembered, from the senior president of our American colleges.

The first position taken by President Hopkins goes to the nature of suffrage generally. By most persons it is regarded simply as a personal right or boon, possessed merely for the benefit of the possessor. Few look at the double character of the suffrage; and the mass of orators and writers who discourse upon the subject have never perceived the fact, as a fact, that, however freely it may be given, it can never reach even a bare majority of humanity, and hence, being exercised by the minority, must always be more representative than personal. To vote is to take part in government. And they who take part in government—and it makes little difference whether it be by voting or by holding office—"must act largely in a representative capacity. They must act for the children, the sick, the infirm, the insane, the criminal, the absent. If adult women were permitted to vote, there would still remain a large majority who could take no part in the government, and whose rights could be secured only as they were thus represented. Hence all concerned in government," and not merely legislators and officials, "act as trustees and guardians." So soon as the position is established that government is representative, it must follow that the right to take part in it—i. e., the right to hold office, the right to vote—cannot be a natural right; for natural rights belong to all, and all cannot hold office and all cannot vote. It must also follow that society, which confers the right to take part in government—i. e., to hold office or to vote, "will have the right to say who shall exercise that right, and on what conditions. Hence society may rightfully require that voters and office-holders shall be above a certain age, shall have a certain degree of education, shall have committed no infamous crime, and the like." And here President Hopkins brings out an important obligation which goes with the right of suffrage—an obligation too little recognized by the men who possess the right, and wholly overlooked by the advocates of its immediate and unconditional extension to women. Indeed, every violent partisan of the extension has insisted that women *may* vote, and has never looked at the deeper effect behind it, that then women *must* vote. It is true that society may not impose penalties for the neglect of the duty; but, nevertheless, when it confers the franchise it will impose the obligation. Are women ready to meet it? President Hopkins does not ask the question; nor does he indeed use it as an argument; but he broadly, and irrespective of the sexes, states the nature of the obligation and the reserved right of society to enforce it.

Having thus laid down the general principles which affect the suffrage, irrespective of the classes or individuals by whom it may be exercised, President Hopkins says fairly that it "still remains a duty for society to confer this right in the most just and secure manner that human wisdom can devise." As to the past, he thinks that "there has doubtless been from the first the spontaneous and unconscious operation of a principle which should be a controlling one; that is, that those should vote on any subject on whom the responsibility with reference to it falls. It has seemed right that those who are to go to war should determine the question of war, and that those who are liable to do military and police duty, and sit on juries, who are to work on the highways and pay the taxes, should vote on those subjects; that those, in short, whoever they may be, who do the fighting and the working and the tax-paying, should also do the voting. It would be quite as unjust that war should be declared through the votes of women and children who could take no part in it, as that men should impose taxes on property which women have acquired." And he does not hesitate to declare that "if women and children had taken an active part

\* "The Law of Love, and Love as a Law; or, Moral Science, Theoretical and Practical. By Mark Hopkins, D.D., LL.D., President of Williams College." New York: Charles Scribner & Co. 1869.

in the great duties and responsibilities of society, beyond question they would have been allowed to vote." But, accounting thus for what has been, he proceeds to enquire what ought to be. "On what principle ought society to confer the right of taking part in the government?" Speaking negatively, he thinks that no one should be excluded arbitrarily "unless such exclusion is required by the ends of government," and he recognizes two grounds of exclusion. "One is incompetence, the other presumed hostility to the government. On these grounds minors, foreigners not naturalized, criminals, and those who have shown hostility to the government, are excluded." Speaking affirmatively, he lays down as the first principle which should govern the bestowal of the right, that while it is not a natural right possessed by all, it is nevertheless "to be something attainable by all." "Thus society may require that all voters shall have attained a uniform and discreet age, but distinctions may not be drawn between the rich and the poor, the white and the black, the learned and the unlearned." And the next principle which should govern is that society may not impose any condition "which the mass of the people cannot comply with. Thus society may not require that voters shall be free from sin, but may require that they shall be free from crime." "Thus society may not limit the right of suffrage to men learned in the ancient languages; but it may require that every voter shall be able to read the English language, for that is attainable by every American youth, and necessary in the present age to secure an ordinary intelligence."

A distinction, however, is to be taken between two things often confounded—the right of suffrage and the right of representation. It does not follow, because one has not the right to take part in the affairs of the government, that he has no rights under it. All persons, whether they possess or do not possess the elective franchise, have a vital interest in their government, and as strong a claim upon its protection, its forbearance, or its justice as the officers who administer it and the voters who select those officers. Or, as President Hopkins clearly puts it: "Wherever there is a right to govern, there must also be a right to be governed rightly. The representative in the legislature represents far more than the minority of men who voted for him. He represents their opponents who voted against him, their wives and children who did not vote; and he represents, and is bound to provide for, the well-being of even criminals who have forfeited the right to vote." He then draws attention to another "right of representation which in this country has received but little favor or attention as yet," and this is "the representation of property." His discussion is able and suggestive; but we do not now stay to present this part of his argument.

Having carefully surveyed all the preliminary ground, and gone around and beyond the subject, President Hopkins comes directly to the question, "Whether the right of suffrage should be extended to woman?" "Not whether she has a natural right to vote, for none have that; but whether her own elevation and best influence, and the ends of society, require that the right should be bestowed upon her?" And here he thinks that the fundamental mistake has been that "this question has been discussed as if the sexes constituted different classes, and as if there were, or would be, in their real interests a conflict between them." So far from this being the case, their interests are not only similar but identical. Indeed, the very existence of society "depends on men's and women's entering into a special relation which not only unites their interests, as in a partnership, but identifies them." It will, therefore, readily be perceived that our author regards the family, and not the individual, as the "unit of society." "This character of it," he says, "should be, and unconsciously is, one of the most cherished objects of Christian civilization, and unhappy will be the nation whose legislative mind shall regard society simply as a mass of individuals, and not as a combination of families." He admits that "there are cases where this relation does not exist;" but such "are strictly exceptional, and society is not organized, and does not exist, for exceptional cases;" though if the principle be adhered to "of giving to each unit a single and equal representation," society may still "provide for exceptional cases by general laws."

But how would this theory leave men? We now allow to every man—not to every head of a family—but to every man, as such, the right of suffrage. Would not the doctrine of the family's being the true unit require the disfranchisement of the large class of unmarried men? But President Hopkins by no means proposes any such retrograde legislation. On the contrary, he holds that at present "when the sons of a family reach the age of manhood, they go forth and become in theory, as in fact, the stocks of new families, which sooner or later they support, maintain, and represent." "They may not," he continues, "instantly marry; but they

are preparing for that, and are essentially doing the work of maintaining the future family by the work of preparation. The daughters, on the contrary, remain at home, and are identified in its interests with the old family until they are taken forth to form parts of new families. They do not go forth by themselves, nor undertake the work of preparation." This last remark is undoubtedly true; for though many girls do go forth by themselves to earn their bread or pay for their dresses, and some on works of philanthropy, yet none ever goes forth to undertake the work of preparation for a family. She does not lay up money to support the future husband before she finds him, nor to feed and clothe the little ones yet unborn. She may put aside money to furnish the house, but never to build it. She may prefer to have her own pin-money, but would scorn the idea of toiling and saving so as some day to provide a husband with his. In short, no girl ever goes forth, as every youth of average spirit does, to found a family. "Exceptionally," adds President Hopkins, "they may acquire property, and in the contemplation of law establish for themselves new homes. Society will never foster such a system, for it will be prejudicial to its own ends."

The question of competency he does not allow to enter in. He concedes that man "is competent to set the table and rock the cradle," and that "woman is competent to vote;" but he insists that society, being "a combination of families," its "one life will be within two spheres." Over the one sphere, within the family, "not inferior to that of man, but different from it," woman presides. "Here she has not only a right to vote, but to rule," and "nothing will be added to the dignity of the husband or to the happiness of the family by any interference with her where the responsibility properly falls upon her;" and, conversely, "nothing will be added to the dignity of the wife or to the happiness of society by any interference of the wife where the responsibility properly falls upon the husband." It is not because the man or the woman may not be competent for the duties of both spheres, but because "the one life of society will work itself out in more perfect results if these two great but interdependent spheres be left to those who naturally have charge of them." It is conceded that "women have wrongs," and that these "must be redressed," but this can only be done by parents and children, husbands and wives, acting in the spirit of their established relations; "and the same spirit on the part of men that would concede the right of voting, would concede and secure in a representative capacity every right without that." Yet it is not the advancing employment of women to which President Hopkins objects, either in new fields of private enterprise or even in the civil service of the Government, so long as her own sphere be preserved. What he does insist upon is, that "so long as the sexes remain fused in one common mass—as has always been the case with society—so long the indiscriminate mingling of the sexes, either in the domestic sphere or in the general management of government, will be found an inconvenience—a source of embarrassment and weakness." But, at the same time, he is far from believing that nothing is to be done. After confining the sexes to their respective spheres, he is careful to add: "But while the above is said, society is to hold itself ready to make any changes which its changing modifications may require. In the primitive stages of society, when the chief business of governments was to carry on offensive or defensive war, women had no desire to take part in government, and their presence would have been an inconvenience and an injury. But society has now greatly advanced, so that there are many fields, especially that of education, in which woman may properly act, and in which her aid will be an advantage to society; and it is possible that in a future and higher state of society these fields will be increased, and woman be assigned to perform her definite part in the government."

Yet, after all, it would seem that if it be once conceded or established that the family, and not the individual, is the true unit of society, then the question will be little else than one of convenience—whether it be better that the family ballot be carried to the polls by one person or two. We may add that the whole enquiry is conducted in the calmest and most philosophical spirit, and that the slight vein of bias which may run through it is not that of a petty jealousy for the rights of man, or for the existing condition of things, but a regard for woman as she is.

*The Innocents Abroad; or, The New Pilgrim's Progress.* By Mark Twain. (Hartford: American Publishing Company. 1869.)—Mr. Samuel L. Clemens, who is known to many of us, and ought to be known to all of us, as Mark Twain, was one of the passengers on the *Quaker City* when she took her ill-assorted party of excursionists to Europe and the East, and he has just given us, in a thick book of more than six hundred pages, a record of the tour. It might better have been a thinner book, for there is



some dead wood in it, as there has to be in all books which are sold by book-agents and are not to be bought in stores. The rural-district reader likes to see that he has got his money's worth even more than he likes wood-engravings. At least, such is the faith in Hartford; and no man ever saw a book-agent with a small volume in his hand.

But if some of the book is needless, none of it is really poor, and much of it very good. Mr. Clemens's plan of delivering an unvarnished tale, of giving just his own impressions of what he saw, at once made his work sure of some real value as well as much freshness, and his book is one to be commended merely as a book of travels. But, of course, the "American humor" is the great thing. It is not in the light of a traveller that one regards a gentleman who when during his wanderings in the Holy Land he comes upon the "tomb of Adam," which the monks exhibit, thus gives utterance to a natural burst of sentiment:

"The tomb of Adam! How touching it was, here in a land of strangers, far away from home, and friends, and all who cared for me, thus to discover the grave of a blood relation. True, a distant one, but still a relation. The unerring instinct of nature thrilled its recognition. The fountain of my filial affection was stirred to its profoundest depths, and I gave way to tumultuous emotion. I leaned upon a pillar and burst into tears. I deem it no shame to have wept over the grave of my poor dead relative. Let him who would sneer at my emotion close this volume here, for he will find little to his taste in my journeyings through Holy Land. Noble old man—he did not live to see me—he did not live to see his child. And I—alas, I did not live to see him. Weighed down by sorrow and disappointment, he died before I was born—six thousand brief summers before I was born. But let us try to bear it with fortitude. Let us trust that he is better off where he is. Let us take comfort in the thought that his loss is our eternal gain."

All the prominent characteristics of our peculiar school of humorists—their audacity, their extravagance and exaggeration—Mr. Clemens displays in fulness in the course of his ramblings, and he has some merits which belong to his individual self, and which make him a very agreeable companion when he is at ease and natural—which is not always; for as he pads so, we must make free to tell him, does he sometimes grimace, and is professionally a humorist as he was professionally a book-maker. It will be a just punishment for him to reflect that no doubt many a farmer will read all his jokes—the good ones as well as these bad ones we are speaking to him about—with profound gravity and unshaking belief in them as so much serious log-book.

There is, besides those we have mentioned, another characteristic of "American humor," which consists in a certain sort of what may be called fatuousness. When the man in the stage-coach, riding along with "the great moral showman" without knowing him, kept on telling him "some of Artemus Ward's jokes," and at the end of each one of them punched his companion in the side and said, "What a damned fool the fellow is!" he was not the worst critic that Artemus ever had. Nearly all his jokes have in them a display of mental helplessness—not to say imbecility—a drifting along of the mind from one topic to another, suggested but not really connected, topic, and are largely dependent upon this for their humorous effect. The same thing may be seen—though not nearly so unmixed now so often—in the efforts of Mr. Josh Billings. The humor in the Nasby Papers consists rather in Mr. Locke's conception of the low, "dough-face" Democrat than in anything strictly humorous that is said or done by him after he is made, and the Cross roads pastor and postmaster gives no exhibition of the trait mentioned. But the author of "The Innocents Abroad" has some of it—though something of what he has is acquired and imitative, we should say—and may be taken to be rather more nearly Artemus Ward's successor in this line than either of the other humorists to whom we have referred.

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*Select Orations of Marcus Tullius Cicero.* With Explanatory Notes by George Stuart, A.M., Professor of Latin in the Central High School of Philadelphia. (Philadelphia: Eldredge & Brother, 1869.)—Chase and Stuart's series of school editions of Latin writers has already been commended in these columns for the unusual elegance and convenience of form, and the practical excellence of the annotations, which make them peculiarly well adapted to the use of schools. This edition of Cicero's orations—the third of the series—is marked by the same qualities. Mr. Stuart has done well in going outside of the set of orations usually read, and giving in addition three of the Philippics and one of the Verrine orations. We are disappointed, however, to find that he not only has not attempted to remedy the chronological confusion of earlier editions, but has even increased it by inserting the oration for Milo between those for Marcellus and King Deiotarus. It would seem that nothing could be more confusing to a boy than to commence his knowledge of Cicero with the orations of his consulship; then to go back four years to his first political speech; from this to pass of a sudden to his pleadings before the dictator Caesar, with a piece of special pleading from the period of anarchy sandwiched in between them; and then, after specimens of the indignant eloquence of the orator's last years, to jump back nearly thirty years to the generous appeal of the young lawyer in behalf of the oppressed provincials. It would have been easy, by altering the position of the orations for the Manilian Law and for Milo, to remedy all this; for the speech against Verres would be, perhaps, too difficult to come in its proper chronological place.

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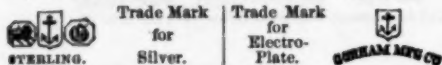
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